

The Baptist Record

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"Christmas Baby" article ends in emotional reunion

By John Dart

CALIMESA, Calif. (BP) — After 40 years of separation, four Arab-Americans held an emotional reunion here with Kate Ellen Gruver, a Southern Baptist missionary who gave them a chance at life at an orphanage in post-World-War-II Nazareth.

Of the four, however, only Lorice Swanson was not told the reason for the gathering April 26 at the home of Diana and Ron Crouch about 20 miles west of Palm Springs.

Introduced inside the house to the unidentified, 79-year-old "guest of honor," Swanson politely said, "You look familiar."

"This is Aunt Katie," said Diana Crouch, a fellow orphan who located the retired missionary last fall through Southern Baptist Woman's Missionary Union.

Swanson uttered a long "Aaahh!" Putting her hands to her face to cover tears that started flowing, she laid her head on the shoulders of the petite woman in the white, flower-print sweater and dress.

After exchanging rapid updates on each other's lives, Swanson said, "I'm so overwhelmed. I can't believe this!"

Gruver, who now lives in Decatur, Ga., began the orphanage in 1945 with funding from members of WMU. After a dozen years working in Palestine and Israel as a foreign missionary, she left in 1952 and returned to the United States to work with Broadman Press and eventually the Home Mission Board. She had lost contact with nearly all of the 20 children at the home — even though many of them eventually made their way to North America.

Diana Crouch, whose Arab name was "Hadiya," last year sought information about her early years in Nazareth to share with her own two daughters.

Crouch wrote Eljee Bentley, WMU archivist in Birmingham, Ala., asking for information about the George W. Truett Home in which she was raised. Bentley sent Crouch an article about the home from a 1952 issue of the WMU magazine Royal Service. It told the story of a baby left on the

doorstep of the home at Christmas.

Responding last November, Crouch wrote Bentley that she was the "Christmas baby" mentioned in the article.

"My heart was filled with beautiful memories while I read through the pages," Crouch wrote. She said she would like to contact Kate Ellen Gruver and ask "if she remembers Hadiya (me)."

Gruver, at the reunion, recalled she got a phone call from a Diana Crouch but didn't have any idea who she was. When told she was "the Christmas baby," Gruver exclaimed, "I can't believe it!"

"I never could figure how I got my Southern accent," Crouch said, "but as soon as I heard Aunt Katie on the phone, I knew."

Crouch had maintained contact with other children who left the home and settled in the United States. She was able to join close friend Lorice in the late 1960s at California Baptist College in nearby Riverside where they were roommates.

Also present for the reunion and a bountiful lunch of Middle Eastern dishes was:

— "Ali," now Sam Elaine, who was the second boy admitted to the home. Brought to America after high school graduation by his father who lived in Brooklyn, Elaine owns a furniture store in Upland, Calif.

— Aida Paine, a public school teacher in Phoenix, Ariz. Aida came to this country in 1969, working as a nurse's aide in Texas while studying education, then graduating in 1973 and marrying in 1975.

Sitting on a couch with Paine and patting her leg, Gruver said, "You'll never know how I missed you all." Pointing to Paine's jet-black hair, Gruver said, "Your hair was blond when I left."

Gruver said she and fellow missionaries never referred to the boys and girls as orphans or to the home as an orphanage.

"They were my children, and I feel like these are my grandchildren," she said, referring to the daughters of Crouch and Paine who hovered around.



REDISCOVERING THE PAST — Kate Ellen Gruver (seated, second from right) brought photos along to the reunion she had April 26 with four of "her children" — all now grown and living in the United States. Gruver gave each of them photos of themselves as children. Enjoying photos of the past are: (seated, left to right) Diana Crouch, Aida Paine, Gruver, and Lorice Swanson. Standing behind (left to right) are: Vic Swanson, Janet Elaine, and Sam Elaine.

She gave each of her former charges copies of photos she had kept over the years. "I never knew I had a tricycle," said Elaine, looking at photo of a tyke on a tricycle.

Crouch was given a picture of herself taken when she was a month old. "My Nicole as a baby looked just like me," she said.

Of the four, the women are involved in Baptist churches today: Crouch as a member of a Southern Baptist church in nearby Yucaipa; Swanson as the youth minister in an American Baptist Church in Upland, Calif.; and Paine as a mission-minded member of North Phoenix Church who saves used clothing to give to low-income children who attend a church-run preschool.

"When I speak in churches," Paine emphasized, "I feel privileged I can show people the result of money spent on missions."

The George W. Truett Home, named after the late Southern Baptist preacher, was begun by Gruver and a missionary couple to care for Palestinian children who were either abandoned or had hopeless situations in fragmented families.

They wrote to the Foreign Mission Board for funding but mission money was scarce during the war. Gruver then wrote to Kathleen Mallory, the top national executive of WMU in 1945, asking if WMU could help. Little time elapsed before Gruver received a call from her bank in Nazareth, saying she'd have to come down and endorse a check for \$5,000.

"For what? Where did that come from?" she asked incredulously.

"Anyway, I made tracks down to the bank."

The request apparently came to the attention of the Virginia WMU, which sent the money and then funded the home for the next couple of years before the FMB funded it through the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for Foreign Missions.

The home eventually closed when the last of the 20 children left as young adults.

At the reunion, the invaluable and soft-spoken source for lost childhood regaled the families formed in America with a detailed story of the

Christmas baby of 1948.

"On Dec. 23, Diana was left on the doorstep of the pharmacy for the Scottish Mission Hospital in Nazareth," Gruver said, recalling doctors saying she was only about a day old.

Earlier, at the home, 3-year-old Lorice had dictated a letter for Santa Claus to Aunt Katie, saying she wanted flowers, music, and a baby.

"You want a baby doll?" asked Gruver.

"No, a baby sister," answered little Lorice.

On Christmas Day, Dr. Bathgate, a white-haired physician, "put on his Father Christmas outfit and came in carrying a baby girl. He asked, 'Who wants a baby sister?'" Gruver said.

"I do," said Lorice.

Everyone started calling her "Lorice's baby." After a while, Gruver asked Lorice, "What are you going to call your baby?"

Lorice answered, "Hadiya," which Gruver said means "very special gift" in Arabic.

"At prayertime later," Gruver recalled, "Lorice said, 'I thank God for my Hadiya.' She didn't believe Santa gave her the baby sister. She knew it was from God."

Dart is religion editor, Los Angeles TIMES.

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EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK

Guy Henderson

A cooperative Baptist meeting

In many ways the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship assembly was like most Baptist Conventions. The singing was excellent; the fellowship, warm and friendly. It would be nice to transfer some of the features of the Fellowship to the regular SBC annual meeting.

The smaller group (6,000) was more manageable. No guards were needed to keep people off the speakers' platform and the Church of Christ parliamentarian never materialized. The sessions were open, the air of freedom prevailed, and the ground at the foot of the platform was level.

Jean Bond of Starkville assisted in giving the Global Missions report in a clear and succinct manner. Joe Tuten of Jackson presided over the state meeting of the Mis-

issippi group in a gracious spirit.

There was a strong emphasis on worship. It may have been more liturgical than some would prefer. Choirs, orchestras, and strong congregational singing added to it. Keith Parks received a standing ovation from the crowd. David Hopper, president of Ruschlikon seminary, and his wife Jo Ann announced their resignation from the Foreign Mission Board and will become "missioners" for CBF in Europe.

The CBF confessed the racist history of Southern Baptists and repented of racist attitudes. This included a call for reconciliation. John F. Baugh, Houston, Tex., layman, announced plans to reclaim the heritage of the SBC by organizing the Southern Baptist Information, Inc. The plan is to help lay per-

sons understand the ultimate goal of New Age Fundamentalism.

Apparently the CBF will make no effort to become a separate denomination but will remain as a fellowship in the SBC. They will provide an alternate delivery system for mission giving, by-passing the SBC Executive Committee. This will be walking a fine line. Strong personalities on both ends of the spectrum will not favor this.

It was a strange feeling. Most of the people in the Fellowship were Southern Baptists. Next month we will be in Indianapolis where most of the messengers will be Southern Baptists. Strange the entire SBC could confess and repent of 150 years of racist history but will neither confess nor repent of 15 years of religious egoism.

Religion in South is changing, Leonard tells Samford audience

BIRMINGHAM (BP) — Religion in the American South is changing, Bill J. Leonard said at Samford University as he profiled southern religious life as it might appear beyond the year 2000.

"Southern religious traditions, even if they change more slowly, will change dramatically in the next decade," he predicted. "Those who institutionally or individually fail to recognize and prepare for the dramatic transitions which lie ahead will simply be carried along by forces they cannot control and choose not to understand."

While certain aspects of religious life and thought are distinctively southern, those distinctives are increasingly less discernable, he noted. Religion in the South has become more generically American in the last decade.

"Southern religious life is currently in a state of transition if not major reorientation. We are living between the times, experiencing the end of one era and the beginning of another."

Leonard examined three basic categories of change: constituency, community, and theology/spirituality.

"Southern churches face a society in which the number of nonaffiliated churches is increasing, where members have a more 'fluid' sense of denominational identity and where religious consumerism sets a powerful agenda with far-reaching institutional and theological implications," he said.

As denominational loyalties decline, Leonard observed, churches must find new ways to

establish, develop, and nurture Christian community. "Changing realities in contemporary culture mean that churches must reevaluate the way in which community gathers for worship, prayer, study, and mission. Nurturing and sustaining community requires major reorientation of religious life in the South in the next century," he said.

"Southern churches of all sizes will feel pressure to accept or respond to the megachurch agenda, adapting ministries and services to specific constituencies. Modifications in ecclesiastical communities mean that a growing number of southern churches will wear denominational affiliation more loosely than ever before."

In the latter days of the 20th century, he said, "Theological liberals

and theological conservatives alike have lost their ability to address and provide meaningful response to the spiritual concerns of our time. Both are increasingly unable to speak to the issues of our time.

Southerners, like other religious Americans, now live between the times theologically and spiritually. "They exist in a post-enlightenment, post-evangelical era," he said. "Theologians, dogmatists, rationalists, and propositionalists would do well to recognize this reality."

Until theological debates and rationalistic excesses are tempered by a renewed spirituality, denominational and congregational unrest will continue to dominate the ecclesiastical environment of the South, Leonard predicted.

When you pray

The Mississippi Prayer Conference will be held May 19, beginning 9 a.m. at Broadmoor Church in Jackson. It is a call for all concerned church leaders to come together. It will be a time of commitment to intercessory prayer and to obtain help in developing an ongoing prayer ministry in your church.

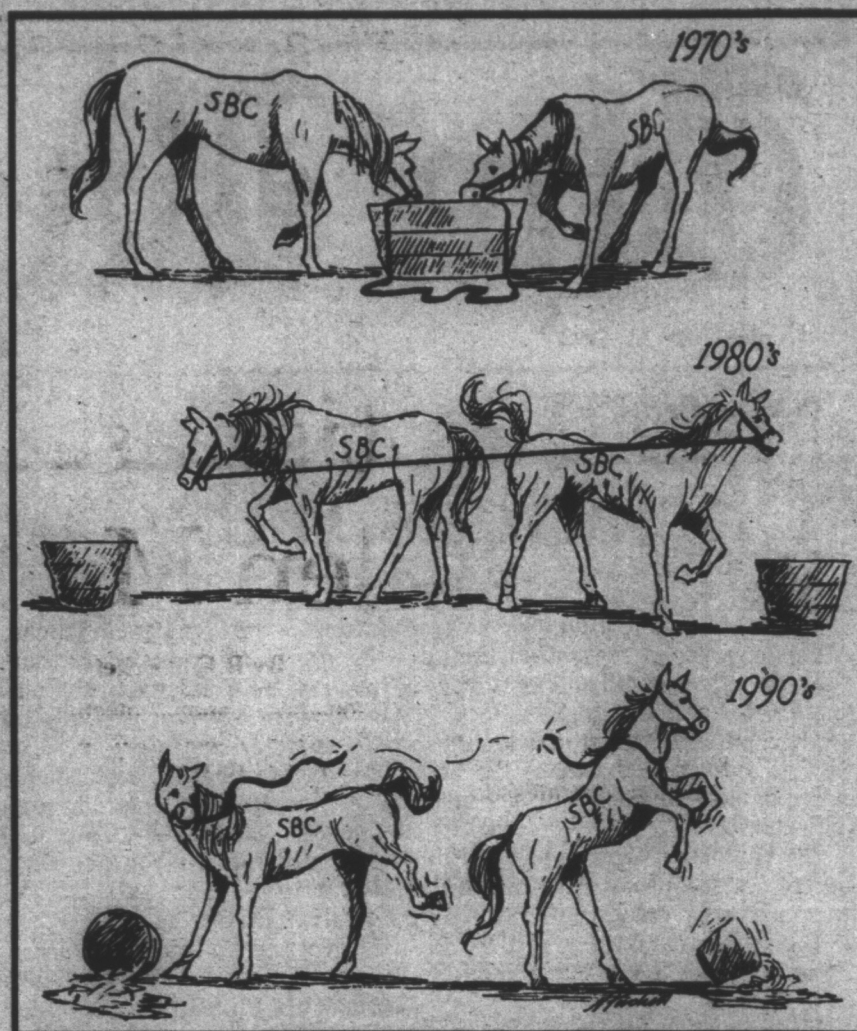
Christ calls us to pray. It is the breath of the soul. It is inviting Christ into your heart: "If any man opens the door, I will come in." It goes deeper than words and is present in the soul before we put it into words.

We need to be participants in doing something which cannot be done by programs, personnel, nor

political power. If we think we can do it, we are not apt to pray very much. We need to see God at work with the realization that it is "not by power, nor by might, but by my spirit," says the Lord. Practice and perseverance are involved in the "pray and faint not" command of Jesus.

Churches need prayer ministries. Intercessory prayer groups are now in many of our churches and here is the challenge to see such a ministry in every church.

The conference is sponsored by the Church Administration/Pastoral Ministries Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board. — GH



Under the shadow of the broad tent

A decade ago the oft-heard cry was that we never get to serve on any board or program in the SBC. Each new president of the SBC spoke of broadening the tent and of being the president of all the Convention. Fourteen years have passed and what is the record?

There continues to be a recycling of the same speakers, trustees, and board members. The most notable being the recent nomination of Paul Pressler to the Foreign Mission Board. Pressler just recently finished a stint on the SBC Executive Committee. He is credited as being the architect for the fundamental/conservative resurgence in the SBC. Of course, we are limited in the number available to serve on boards to

about four million so it was necessary to quickly shift one person from one committee to another.

Then we broaden the tent in the SBC Pastors' Conference and convention program. Men like President Bush, Oliver North, Bill Hybell, and Jerry Falwell have been included. Plus no convention would be complete without hearing from the recycling speakers' committee, enabling us to hear some speakers ten years in a row.

Very few liberals have appeared on SBC programs and this is to be applauded. Neither have we heard from any moderate/conservatives and this is deplorable. This recycling program hardly strengthens the total Convention but it does let you know who is in control. — GH

The legal explosion

It is shocking just reading about it. Religious institutions are no longer exempt from civil action. Church premiums will escalate. Avoid unnecessary lawsuits.

A youth was killed on a church-sponsored hayride. Negotiations are pending; the demand is for \$500,000. A church member injured in a fall on church steps. Church settled in the amount of \$78,304. A 13-year-old child molested a five-year-old in the church school bathroom. Verdict of \$50,000 made against the church for failure to properly supervise.

State and local governments have specific statutes on building requirements. Churches should meet or exceed all requirements; doorways, stairwells, floors, balconies, and all outdoor equipment and facilities.

- outdoor activities: great fellowship, but extra hazardous.
- bus ministries: rewarding and regulated.
- employees: essential but guidelines are necessary.
- sexual misconduct: lawsuits on the upswing.

It may be possible for a church to win a lawsuit and pay \$100,000 in legal fees.

Check with your Annuity Board representative, Bill Sellers, Box 530, Jackson, Ms 39205 or call 968 3800.

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N.C. Baptist association votes Pullen Memorial out

By R.G. Puckett

CARY, N.C. (BP) — With a standing-room-only crowd in the sanctuary of First Church here, a record attendance of messengers from Raleigh Association churches voted Pullen Memorial Church out of its fellowship by an 8-2 margin.

The Raleigh congregation announced March 1 its members had voted by a 64-36% margin to "bless" the "union" of two male homosexuals. The service of union was performed by the church's pastor, Mahan Siler, March 15.

There were 568 votes to remove Pullen from the association's membership and 144 against — a 79.8 to 20.2 percentage. Early in the near-two-hour associational meeting, it was announced that 815 messengers had registered though the ballot vote totaled only 720.

The motion from the association's executive committee to the called meeting provides for a period in which Pullen can make "the desired change of its beliefs and practices in this matter by (the

association's annual meeting, Oct. 26-27, 1992)" and then "the Association will receive said church in good fellowship. If not, the relationship of the Raleigh Baptist Association and Pullen Memorial Baptist Church will be terminated."

Efforts by moderator Jerry Hayner, pastor of Forest Hills Church, to keep the session calm and deliberative failed at points with shouts of "railroad," "point of order," and "time."

"The consensus of Baptists in the area was expressed," said Charles McMillan, director of missions for the association.

"The fellowship is broken immediately. It's a very painful time for us," he added.

"The termination of a 109-year relationship is painful," Pullen pastor Siler told the Raleigh News & Observer after the associational vote.

"I am not surprised by the outcome," Siler told the newspaper, saying he felt the decision was reached hastily and there should

have been more "respectful debate. It took months for our congregation to come to their conclusion."

Siler told the newspaper he did not know what would be the next step for Pullen. "As a church, we'll have to receive what actions happened and do what we think fits our vision of ministry," he said.

Among points contained in the proposed statement on human sexuality by the Raleigh association are:

— "No society can exist without a common core of values and without an acceptable set of limits."

— Jesus' words in Mark 10:6-8 that God's creation involved "male and female" who in marriage "become one flesh." Thus "the biblical model for the expression of human sexuality" is 1) a man and a woman united in a lifelong faithful marriage "by which each realizes the ultimate partnership of life and through which God has provided the possibility of procreation and rearing of children" or 2) "single" (See PULLEN on page 9)

Brotherhood trustees approve crisis ministry reserve fund

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (BP) — Brotherhood Commission trustees voted unanimously April 24 to approve a capital campaign, with the employment of Resource Development, Inc. of Springfield, Mo., to assist in planning and conducting it.

"The reserves we hope to establish through this campaign, which we will call a Program Reserve Fund, will support and enhance the mission of the Brotherhood Commission and our state Brotherhood departments," said James D. Williams, Brotherhood Commission president.

Investment earnings from the reserve fund are expected to help the agency increase its ability to support the meeting of "crisis/emergency ministry needs" at home and overseas. Earnings also will be used to meet immediate, critical missions education needs at the Brotherhood Commission and in state convention Brotherhood departments related to program personnel, promotion, technology and development.

A reserve fund investment committee of trustees will be created to

develop and maintain policies for managing the fund.

"I know this effort would appear to be a daring and bold move for the Brotherhood Commission but we believe strongly it is of God," Williams said of the first-ever campaign. "And I want our partners in the Southern Baptist missions enterprise to know we will design it so as not to interfere or compete for support with any of our missions offerings or with the work of our state conventions."

Trustees also heard reports from participants in the agency's current emergency relief effort, Project Brotherhood, including remarks from Mark Lassiter of Germantown, Tenn. Lassiter arrived home from Russia April 24 after two weeks in Moscow working with four other Southern Baptist volunteers in food distribution.

Project Brotherhood got another boost during the meeting when food boxes provided by churches in the Shelby Association were loaded by trustees onto a 50-foot trailer while local television news cameras rolled. The 36-pound boxes provide

a month's worth of staple items for an average Russian family and are symbolic of Project Brotherhood's next phase, which will emphasize food boxes provided by local churches and individuals.

In other action, trustees:

— adopted a 1992-93 budget of \$4.2 million, representing a 4% increase over 1991-92.

— received a draft report of the agency's 1992-95 corporate priority plan, a set of broadly-stated priorities to guide the development of all other plans when it is completed in October.

— received an initial report from a committee of staff and state Brotherhood leaders examining what modifications, if any, are needed for Pioneers and High School Baptist Young Men, the agency's missions program for young men in grades 7-12.

— approved a resolution in recognition of Keith and Helen Jean Parks' leadership with the Foreign Mission Board.

The next meeting of Brotherhood Commission trustees is scheduled Oct. 23-24, 1992, in Memphis.

Indianapolis convention forecast: 17,000-18,000

NASHVILLE (BP) — Although it will be the first time the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention has been held in Indianapolis, the Hoosier city can expect as many as 18,000 messengers June 9-11, according to an SBC official.

Lee Porter, SBC registration secretary, told Baptist Press he expects between 17,000 and 18,000 messengers to register for the 135th session in the Hoosier Dome in Indianapolis. Porter has had an impressive record in predicting messenger registration since 1978, including a prediction last year in Atlanta of 22,500 with actual registration of 23,465.

With spouses, visitors, and guests, total attendance at the 1992 annual meeting could approach 23,000 to 25,000, SBC officials said. Most of the motels and hotels near the downtown are full although there are still rooms available in the outer loop area of Indiana's capital city.

"Each church needs to secure their messenger cards by writing their state convention office and getting the cards they are entitled to," Porter said.

Each church is entitled to messengers according to membership or by giving to "convention causes," Porter said. Actual requirements are printed on the messenger cards.

Resolutions in Indianapolis needed now by committee

NASHVILLE (BP) — People seeking to have resolutions considered by Southern Baptist Convention messengers at the annual meeting in Indianapolis June 9-11 are requested to send them in advance to the Resolutions Committee.

Committee chairman R. Albert Mohler Jr., editor of the Georgia Baptist paper, *The Christian Index*, has asked proposed resolutions be sent as soon as possible.

According to SBC bylaw 21, the committee has the "duty ... to prepare and submit to the convention resolutions which the committee deems appropriate for adoption and to report on all matters submitted to it by the convention, with or without recommendation or amendments."

Persons who want to submit resolutions should send them in advance to the committee through (See RESOLUTIONS on page 9)

SBC reception will honor Parks' missions career

INDIANAPOLIS (BP) — Foreign Mission Board President R. Keith Parks and his wife, Helen Jean, will be guests of honor during a special reception June 10 at the Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting in Indianapolis.

The reception, scheduled for 4:50 p.m., will be concurrent with the annual foreign missions reception at the convention meeting. Mission board officials anticipate up to 1,000 people will attend and have reserved the Capitol Ballroom in the Westin Hotel across Maryland Street from the Hoosier Dome and Convention Center, site of convention sessions.

Parks announced in April he would retire in October, citing differences with board trustees in foreign missions philosophy and administration.

The Parks were appointed missionaries to Indonesia in 1954. In 1968 trustees invited him to board headquarters in Richmond, Va., to direct mission work in Southeast Asia. He was elected to lead the entire foreign missions enterprise in 1979.

His tenure as president has brought with it some of Southern Baptists' most dramatic world missions expansion and he has become the denomination's most respected missionary figure.



MC awards honorary doctorates

Three alumni of Mississippi College will receive honorary doctorate degrees May 16: Morris Chapman, left, president, Southern Baptist Convention and pastor of First Church, Wichita Falls, Tex., will receive the doctor of divinity; Farno L. Green of Ruth, center, retired senior research physicist at General Motors Research Laboratories, will be presented the doctor of science degree; Bernard J. Ebberts of Brookhaven, president and chief executive officer of LDDS in Jackson, will be awarded the doctor of laws degree. They all received undergraduate degrees in 1963, 1941, and 1967, respectively.

The Cooperative Program at work — at home !

By Debbie Baird Buie

When asked what the Cooperative Program does, most church members will know that their gifts help fund foreign missions. But how close to home does the Cooperative Program work? Your gifts could be at work in your own living room through the varied concerns of Mississippi Baptist's Christian Action Commission.

"Everything we do touches on the home," explained Elizabeth Holmes, Mississippi's consultant on family and women's issues. Issues is the key word here. While Discipleship Training is the church's resource for biblically developing and maintaining a Christian home and family, the Christian Action Commission addresses issues that would threaten and do threaten the Christian lifestyle on several levels.

"Unlike most other agencies of the Mississippi Baptist Convention, we are 100% Cooperative Program funded," Holmes said.

So what is it the Christian Action Commission (CAC) does with their portion of the Cooperative Program pie? The Mississippi Baptist Convention has assigned this agency with seven areas of responsibility in which to address the social, ethical, moral, and legal issues which affect Christians today: the family, alcohol and drugs, pornography, human relations, Christian citizenship, church and state, and moral and social problems such as hunger, education, and abuse.

How does Mississippi's CAC accomplish its mission? Armed with the latest information and statistics, and firmly grounded in what the Holy Bible has to say about an issue, Holmes and CAC Executive Director-Treasurer Paul Jones go wherever they are

invited. "We take a look at society's problems and do what we can to improve things," said Holmes. "We tell people what they can do, what the church can do, about these issues. And we leave them with helpful information."

Thanks to Cooperative Program funding, Holmes stated that the CAC has actually seen a decrease in pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases in some places where sexual awareness seminars for teens have been conducted.

"We can prevent a crisis in the home by educating people," said Holmes. "And we can influence how our children are educated in public schools."

Holmes recalled a campaign some time ago which led to mobilizing a network of concerned Christians who telephoned the state's committee for approving school textbooks. They asked that the Impressions series not be approved because of its emphasis on witchcraft and other satanic influences. The result was that the problem text was not purchased for our schools.

The issues confronted by the Christian Action Commission on behalf of Mississippi Baptists take Holmes and Jones from encouraging individual awareness of the effect television has on us to lobbying on behalf of Christian perspectives in the state legislature as well as in Washington. Both are registered lobbyists.

Without your gifts through the Cooperative Program none of this would be possible. "We couldn't do what we do without the Cooperative Program," Holmes said.

Buie is a free-lance writer living in Vicksburg.

Youth and alcohol: deadly, unrecognized consequences

Continuing her campaign to educate the public about teen alcohol use, Surgeon General Antonia Novello released two reports on April 13: "Youth and Alcohol: Dangerous and Deadly Consequences" and "Youth and Alcohol: Drinking and Crime." The reports, prepared by the Inspector General of the Department of Health and Human Services, presented information on the "unrecognized consequences" of alcohol, which according to Novello, "rarely have captured the headlines ... but many are serious, particularly when underage drinkers 'binge'."

The consequences she mentioned, based on statistics and research from various source, were:

Crime:

— About one-third of all juvenile males who have been arrested said they had used alcohol in the previous 72 hours

— Nearly 40% of young people in adult correctional facilities reported drinking before committing the crime

— Over 50% of college students who had been arrested admitted drinking before they committed crimes

— 50% of college students who were crime victims admitted using drugs and/or alcohol

Rape and sexual assault:

— At a southwestern university, 55% of perpetrators and 53% of sexual assault survivors were under the influence of alcohol at the time of the assault

— At one university, administrators found that every sexual assault case was alcohol-related

— 18% of high school females say that "it's okay to force sex if the girl is drunk"

— 39% of high school males say that "it's okay to force sex if the girl is drunk"

Suicide:

— 70% of attempted suicides involve frequent drug and/or alcohol use

— "A striking association" exists between alcohol use and using firearms to commit suicide by 10- to 19-year-olds

Water activities and drowning:

— 40% to 50% of young males who drowned had consumed alcohol prior to drowning

— 40% to 50% of youths injured diving had consumed alcohol prior to diving

Truancy, vandalism, and school performance in high school seniors:

— Twice as many frequent binge drinkers skipped school (55% vs. 25%)

— Nearly five times as many seniors who binged frequently damaged school property (36% vs. 8%)

Reprinted from "Booze News," April 1992.

Committee chair Sansing gives info on nominations to MBC boards, commissions

Gordon Sansing, chairman of the Committee on Nominations, requests that nominations of qualified Baptists for various boards and commissions of the Mississippi Baptist Convention be mailed to him at First Baptist Church, P. O. Box 390, Vicksburg, MS 39181, or to the office of the Executive Director, Mississippi Baptist Con-

vention Board, Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205.

These forms should be returned no later than Sept. 8, 1992. Forms for nominations may be secured by contacting the executive director's office.

Boards and commissions of the Convention are: Board of Ministerial Education, Christian Action

Commission, Education Commission, Historical Commission, Baptist Children's Village, Baptist Foundation, Mississippi Baptist Medical Center, Baptist Memorial Health Care System, Inc., Blue Mountain College, Mississippi College, William Carey College, and Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

Billy Graham: statement on riots in Los Angeles

The explosive and savage outbreak of violence in Los Angeles last week is a tragic reminder that our nation still has not solved some of its most fundamental social problems. Every corner of our nation could be affected by what has happened there.

I call upon people throughout our nation to pray for Los Angeles and its people. Let us pray that the senseless violence will stop and peace and order will be restored swiftly without further bloodshed. We should pray also that God will give wisdom to the mayor and all the leaders of that city, and especially to the man who will soon take over as the new chief of police, Mr. Williams of Philadelphia. There are many thousands of dedicated Christians in south-central Los Angeles, and many godly pastors, who are working for peace and reconciliation. Christians all over America should pray for them.

We need to pray as well that the

social problems which have been festering for years in so many of our cities may be addressed in a fresh way. The issues are complex, I know, and will not be solved overnight. However, my prayer is that the tragic events which have gripped Los Angeles will be a catalyst to bring a new era of justice and tolerance and love to our nation.

This event is another indication that our nation is in need of a moral and spiritual revival. Ultimately, the problems we face are not only social or political in nature; they are moral and spiritual problems which come from the selfishness and greed of the human heart. Most of all, therefore, we need to pray for moral and spiritual renewal in our land — a renewal which comes only when we turn in faith and repentance to God. Only God can change the human heart — and he will, as we, each one of us, open our lives to the power and love he has shown us in Christ.

Old bushes have new fire at Grenada's Emmanuel

The occasion was an association- al "Call to Prayer and Solemn Assembly" held at the Emmanuel Church, Grenada, May 4.

At the end of the meeting a woman gave her testimony.

"This old bush has been around for quite a while but tonight it has new fire. The Lord has met me here."

Her statement made reference to a meditation given by the pastor of the church, Clarence Cooper, about Moses and his burning bush experience: "Indeed we stand on holy ground in the presence of the living God. How many burning bushes in our lives go unnoticed!"

Charles and Indy Whitten, prayer coordinators of the Mississippi Baptist Convention, spoke of the importance of prayer ministries in the churches.

Mrs. Irene Floyd, prayer coordinator of the Grenada Association, presided. Step by step those in attendance were led to soul searching before God — first in time

alone with sealed orders to be opened and considered in confession and prayer. There were small group prayer sessions; a responsive reading of confession of sin; and a meditation by Irene Floyd. Music lifted up hearts in praise.

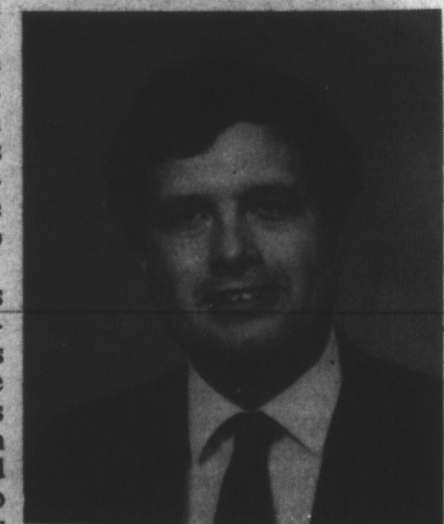
It is evident that Irene Floyd is one of God's chosen instruments to help promote the prayer ministry in her association. She says that a meeting such as the one of May 4 has been in her heart and mind since 1988 when she began to study "Prayer Life."

Though the number present at the meeting was not large in comparison to the total membership of the churches of the association, there was a strong sense of a mission from God to make prayer the primary strategy of their lives. Attention was called to a phrase which came to Frank H. Leavell by inspiration in his leadership of the Baptist Student Union, "We can be the Master's minority!"

Newton Association calls John Sharp as director of missions

John Sharp of Sebastopol will begin serving as director of missions for Newton Association, June 1. Sharp is a graduate of East Central Community College, William Carey College, and New Orleans Seminary. He has pastored churches in Mississippi and Florida. He and his wife Jan Wilcher Sharp have two children.

Sharp will continue to serve as director of missions for Scott Association, along with responsibilities in Newton Association. He will be in Scott Association on Mondays and Wednesdays, and in Newton Association on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and will be available to both associations whenever there is a need during other days.



Sharp

Leon Young, Lauderdale DOM, will retire June 30

Leon Young, director of missions for Lauderdale Association, has announced his retirement from the active ministry to be effective June 30. He has served as director of missions for Lauderdale Association since 1965 and as a Southern Baptist minister since his ordination in 1953. His ministry includes pastorates at Edinburg, and at Oak Grove Church, Shubuta. He has also served as a Director of Missions in Associations at Waynesboro, Fayette, and Natchez. He said he plans a continued ministry preaching, counseling, supplying pulpits, and as interim pastor when invited.

As director for Lauderdale Association, Young led in the establishment of the Baptist Center in Meridian at 2641 24th Avenue which houses the association's offices, a Christian Social Ministries Crisis Center, a pastoral counseling service, and a small denominational conference center. Meridian and Lauderdale County churches organized during his tenure include Northcrest, First Church, Lauderdale; Briarwood, Hickory Grove; Mt. View; Providence (Mission); Northeast Mission at Lauderdale; and the reorganization of Meehan Church.

Eastview, formerly located on Old Marion Road after meeting at the Baptist Center for three years, has relocated and changed its name to Trinity Church. Providence Church (Mission) was organized to minister

to the black community in Meridian and Lauderdale County. Young estimates that he has worked with more than 600 pastors and church staff persons who have served Lauderdale Association churches.

In 1970, Young participated in the Asiawide Evangelistic Crusade sponsored by the Foreign Mission Board, SBC and preached revivals in two churches in the Philippines that baptized more than 200 converts as a result of the evangelistic services. In 1976 he visited Southern Baptist missionaries in Ecuador to preach in Quito, the Amazon jungle, Cuenca, and Guayaquil. In 1984 he was given a leave of absence from Lauderdale Association to serve as an interim pastor for eight weeks in an English-language church in Baumholder, Germany.

In the community, Young was a leader in establishing the Listening Post, the forerunner of the Weems Community Health Center. From 1977 to 1983 he served on the Education Commission of the Mississippi Baptist Convention and in 1978 served as president of the Mississippi Conference for Director of Missions.

He is a member of the Meridian/Lauderdale County Acts Board and worked with churches in Meridian and Comcast Cable of Meridian to bring the American Christian Television System network to local TV audiences. He is currently the Convention Board's Disaster Relief coordinator for nine counties.

Young and his wife Kay, a fourth grade teacher at Poplar Springs Elementary School, will move from Meridian to Walnut Grove in June, where they own a home.



Faces and places

by Anne Washburn McWilliams



Intermission time

So brief our days, so very brief
Like an autumn rose with its falling leaf,
A moment's light, a glance of sun
And then our pilgrimage is done.

As the rainbow fades in the summer sky
As the green grass flourishes to die
This moment's triumph, too, will wane
And none shall call it back again.

Write quickly, then, while the candle glows
A little while and the book will close
Go carve your figure of renown
For soon you must lay your chisel down.

Use well this hour's joy, its grief —
For life is brief, so very brief.
— Sybil Leonard Armes

Each of us, as Shakespeare said, is like a player on a stage, making exits and entrances, playing many parts. We go, he wrote, from infant "mewling... in the nurse's arms" to the final stage of childishness, followed by "mere oblivion."

Looking back, I find I have played a variety of roles. I've been daughter, sister, wife, aunt, student, Ridgecrest summer staffer, and fourth grade teacher. I've been a secretary, a cotton mill sweeper, and a GA leader. I've been a Vacation Bible School director in the mountains of northeast Alabama. I've been "missionary for a

month" in Mexico and "mission volunteer for a week" in Argentina. Once for a brief time at Polytechnic Church in Fort Worth, Texas, I played the choice role of listener and learner in the Sunday School classroom of Sybil Leonard Armes, wife of the pastor, Woodson Armes, and writer of the above poem.

One of my longest playing roles has

been that of writer. I've played the part of associate editor for only 2 years, but I've been onstage at the Baptist Record for almost as long. The "Mousetrap" has played in London.

We all do play many parts, but Shakespeare was wrong about the end of the journey leading to oblivion. Bernie May wrote, "On the stage of the kingdom, God, who is Director and Producer, always has another part for each player... In fact, the play is never over. The curtain simply rises and falls on different acts."

It is important for the player to know when to go onstage and when to exit. I'm not certain what number this act is for me, and only the Director and Producer knows how many more acts I'll find a role in. For now, it's time for an exit and a curtain. Maybe I'll get a few encores with the Record. I hope so.

I appreciate you, readers. You have been a great audience. Again, I quote Bernie: "Actually, God and all his angels are the audience. You, like me, are part of the cast... Our role is to be faithful."



Lola Autry of Hickory Flat, member of Pine Grove Church, Benton County, who is currently writing Sunday School lesson commentaries for the Baptist Record, was among award finalists recently honored by the Mississippi Institute of Arts and Letters, for outstanding achievement in photography. Autry, right, is pictured with Anne McWilliams, associate editor,

Baptist Record, at the University Club of Jackson, where the awards ceremony was held. Winner of the photography award was Maude Skyler Clay of Sumner. Autry was nominated by Sarah Peugh of Aberdeen, member of First Church in the city, and a member of the Mississippi Institute of Arts and Letters.

Letters to the editor

"A good reminder"

Editor:

The Baptist Record is to be complimented on its recent front page stories about Christian involvement in environmental issues. The Bible is clear on our responsibilities as stewards of this earth. Your April 23rd issue was a good reminder of our Christian duty to be more than mere consumers of this earth's resources.

Vic Franckiewicz, Jr.
State Senator

From a forester

Dear Editor:

My professional calling and ministry is that of a forester so I had a special interest in the front page articles concerning the environment.

Most of my work week had been spent in the forests of Mississippi and Tennessee. Many of those hours were spent managing and conserving our natural resources and helping private landowners make wise stewardship decisions regarding their forest lands. How disappointing, then, to sit and read that the way for Christians to become involved in pro-environmental issues is to become members of environmental organizations which "... have a non-religious philosophy and a broad-based membership..."

The suggestion that Christians become involved through being members of organizations which often do not hold Christian values is disappointing to me as a forester and disgusting to me as a Christian. To have that suggestion written by a Baptist Sunday School Board writer and printed in an official Southern Baptist publication is very discouraging.

For Christians who feel led of the Spirit to be actively involved in environmental issues, I suggest the following: 1) Recognize that God created natural resources for our wise use. The concept of preservation is neither scriptural nor possible when working with living biological systems. We can only conserve life — we can't preserve it. 2) Study the Scriptures to see that there are many references to how we are to rightly use natural resources; 3) Read about environmental issues but check the sources. Professional resource managers and professionals in related fields don't have all the answers but we do base our work and recommendations on our training and experience rather than on emotions and personal opinions. 4) Become involved with environmental groups which hold views in line with scriptural principles and recognize that Christian stewardship extends just as deeply into the forests, fields, and streams as it does into our pocket books. 5) As important as environmental issues are to all of us, keep in mind that Jesus died for the souls of men, not for clean water nor garbage dumps. As Christians, we must live the same way.

Lanny Autry
New Albany, MS

Unity expresses concern

Dear Sir,

Our first concern is the issue of homosexuality and the apparent credulity given to those who practice what the Bible says is an abomination and unnatural lust. As Rev. Conner from Gulfport has stated, such is not a matter of local church autonomy but of spiritual authority. The traditional

Baptist stance has never insisted that the autonomy of the local church place the will of the majority above the scripture. We urge the local associations and the state conventions to take strong stands against such, and we prayerfully ask that the local congregations reconsider the unspiritual choices which they have made. We also trust that the Southern Baptist Convention meeting at Indianapolis, Indiana in June 1992 will make a bold statement regarding this.

Secondly, we are concerned about some questionable salary arrangements as described in the article, "A Deadly Virus." While we understand that a man should be paid commensurate with his responsibility and performance, we also recognize a dangerous trend which can easily result in the alienation of many faithful tithers who sacrifice to give to the Cooperative Program and our Baptist work. The Executive Committee and others who make these decisions should well be aware that historically Baptists have a long record of conservatism and that includes our stewardship theology. What the "grass-roots Baptists" built up, the "grass-roots Baptists" can bring down. At this critical time in our history, we must not be burdened with excesses.

We must not permit our denomination to go the way of our nation, allowing a privileged few to make these decisions for us.

Farris Smith
Jack Stockstill, Chairman
of Deacons
The congregation of Unity
Baptist Church

WMU does it again!

Editor:

The WMU has done it again! I had become discouraged over the prospect of Southern Baptists ever again becoming an instrument of the Lord. Then my spirits were lifted by the excellent material published by the WMU in Better Homes and Gardens, Good Housekeeping, Family Circle, Woman's Day, and other magazines.

I had acquired a good understanding of the parable of the "Rich Fool" who tore down barns to build bigger ones. We have thrown away song books to buy newer ones. There is far more concern about having luxurious space to use a few hours per week than meeting the physical and spiritual needs of the world around us. We proclaim our belief in an inerrant Bible without knowing what it says and certainly with no intent of doing what it says.

The WMU article emphasizes cases of "doing unto the least of these my brethren." I shouldn't have been surprised to find this trace of vitality in our churches. Except for the WMU, our mission effort would rank somewhere between our athletic programs and Wednesday night suppers in importance.

If the WMU wants to secede and decides to admit men, I would like to submit my application.

Ray A. Thompson
Jackson

"Where are Christian men?"

I am in my middle 50's and single, and I am wondering where the Christian men are today! They go to

church, sit on the second or third row of pews, and they are great pretenders. They may not drink, smoke, or curse, but they believe in living together without being married. It is so discouraging these days that people have no morals. If a guy takes you out to lunch a few times, he thinks that you should hop into bed with him.

I was reared in a Christian home, and in my youth, if people had lived together without marriage, they would have been the outcasts of the community. Nowadays, people think nothing about it. I say if it was a sin back then, it is still a sin. They will tell you that times have changed, but they don't realize that our God never changes. My mother taught me to let a guy know from the start how you felt and they would respect you for doing so. That was true years ago, and there were nice Christian young men that did respect you. If they didn't respect you, you simply did not date them. But now, these same young men have grown up to be older men and have lost their morals. What has happened? They will tell you this is the 90's. Do whatever feels good and then ask God to forgive you. Now isn't that stupid for a grown man to say? Now let's turn the tables. Suppose he had a teenage daughter who became pregnant and the father of the baby would not marry her. Would he just simply say "Oh well, this is the 90's"?

I would like to meet a Christian man who has the same morals that I have, but there are none to be found in this day and time. This is a sad time when you can't have a single Christian man to go out with for dinner, or just enjoy good, wholesome friendship.

Name withheld

capsules

DROUGHT HITS THAILAND: As of April 3, 57 provinces in Thailand was declared drought-stricken. The Interior Ministry office says that 4.76 million people have been affected by the drought. Farming areas covering almost 7 million rai have been affected. This includes many Christian Thai farmers whose livelihood depends on rice farming. As in years past, many people have depended on several urns of rain water, used for drinking, lasting from November until March. When the "mango rains" do not come, then the people are left without rain water to drink. Said Boonma Kotsri: "This year the rains did not come in March and we have no more rain water. So we have to use water from the pond. It's murky water, but what can we do? We have to drink it."

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE REPORTS THAT 69 OFFICERS WERE KILLED IN 1991: WASHINGTON, D.C. — Sixty-nine law enforcement officers were killed feloniously in the line of duty during 1991, according to preliminary national figures released by FBI Director William S. Sessions. The total is four higher than the 1990 annual count of 65. Firearms continued to be the weapon most used in the slaying of officers. Twenty-three officers were wearing body armor at the time of their deaths, and nine were killed with their own weapons. Geographically, 29 officers were slain in the southern states. An additional 49 officers lost their lives due to accidents occurring during the performance of their duties.

OPPOSES HOMOSEXUAL RIGHTS, BUSH SIGNALS EVANGELICALS: WASHINGTON (BP) — President George Bush signaled to evangelical Christian leaders he does not support homosexual rights, two Southern Baptist leaders said after an April 21 White House meeting. "I think we came away with a clear understanding this president is opposed to the radical gay rights agenda," said Richard D. Land, executive director of the Christian Life Commission. "I have no doubts about the president's intentions," said Morris Chapman, president of the Southern Baptist Convention. "At the same time, I hope those around the president understand his position and will do nothing to detract from or diminish his position with the American people." The two Southern Baptist leaders were part of a meeting with 15 evangelicals focused on the president's position on homosexual rights. Land said he thanked President Bush for his actions on some issues, especially his opposition to abortion. In addition to Chapman and Land, several other Southern Baptists participated: Gary Bauer, executive director of the Family Research Council; Robert Dugan, director of public affairs for the National Association of Evangelicals; Beverly LaHaye, president of Concerned Women for America; and Ed McAteer, president of the Religious Roundtable.

TAX FUNDED MOVIE RATED NC-17: TUPELO, MS — A film funded with tax dollars by the National Endowment for the Arts has received an NC-17 rating by the Motion Picture Association of America. NC-17 replaced the former X-rating given by MPAA for porn movies some months ago. The NEA gave \$25,000 to support the film entitled *Poison*. When complaints were raised by those opposing NEA funding for the film, former NEA Chairman John Frohnmayer defended tax funding by calling *Poison* "...the work of a serious artist dealing with serious issues in our society." "We have been saying for years that the National Endowment for the Arts was spending tax dollars to fund pornography," said Donald E. Wildmon, president of American Family Association. "Now even the liberal MPAA agrees with us. It is time for the government to get out of the business of funding pornographic, homoerotic, anti-Christian 'art'."

BAPTISTS FEED SURVIVORS AFTER MEXICO EXPLOSIONS: GUADALAJARA, Mexico (BP) — Baptists have set up a feeding station for rescue workers and displaced residents in the wake of gas explosions in Guadalajara that killed more than 200 people and injured 1,000 April 22. Mexican Baptists and Southern Baptist representatives began the effort after consulting with local relief officials. The station, which began operating April 24, is housed at Bethany Baptist Church near the explosion site. The church reportedly was not damaged in the explosions. No Southern Baptist representatives living in Guadalajara were harmed by the explosions but some Mexican Baptists had not heard from relatives living in the area as of April 23.

CLENDENEN NOMINATED TO EDIT COMMENTARY: Nashville (BP) — Ray Clendenen, chairman of the Old Testament and Hebrew department at Criswell College in Dallas, has been nominated to become general editor of *The New American Commentary* at the Baptist Sunday School Board. The board's trustee executive committee voted without opposition April 23 to forward the administration's recommendation of Clendenen to the full board of trustees. Ballots are to be returned to the administration by May 10. In addition to naming Clendenen as general editor, the recommendation asks trustees to name current editor David Dockery as associate general editor for New Testament and Ken Mathews, associate professor of divinity at Beeson Divinity School in Birmingham, Ala., as associate general editor for Old Testament.

Mission Arlington grew from reaching people

By Frank Wm. White

ARLINGTON, Texas (BP) — Tillie Burgin didn't set out five years ago to start 120 Bible study groups supported with a food pantry, clothes closet, medical clinic, day shelter, and other services.

She only tried to help one family and saw a need for a Bible study in one apartment complex.

Now, with a never-tiring effort, she doesn't hesitate to say her goal is a Bible study in each of the 3,000 apartment complexes in Arlington, a community sandwiched between Dallas and Fort Worth.

Mission Arlington's success has produced a stream of Southern Baptist and other denominational leaders seeking advice on starting similar programs.

"You can't take the model, the method or program because that won't work," Burgin said. "Take the burden for reaching the lost and find ways to meet their needs. That works."

Burgin's zeal and tenacious attitude, which translates into 18-hour days without thought of a day off, are based in her drive to meet needs.

Initially, Burgin and others struggled to get into apartment complexes to hold Bible studies.

Now, 16 locations are on a waiting list for Bible studies as soon as volunteer workers are available, said Lauren Musgrave, new works coordinator, one of four full-time employees of Mission Arlington.

Local interest in Mission Arlington increased significantly when the local police chief told members of a civic organization he noted a decrease in crime and domestic problems in apartment complexes where Mission Arlington was involved.

"Apartment managers who had been resisting our Bible study groups suddenly were offering us apartment space to use," Musgrave said.

The Bible study locations range from Cross Roads in an affluent business park to low-income apartments where about 60% are located, Musgrave said.

About 80% of the Bible studies are at the traditional 11 a.m. hour on Sunday. "With our schedule, we know we are getting people who aren't going to church somewhere else," Musgrave said.

Even though most of the Bible studies are on Sunday morning, Mission Arlington is alive and active throughout the week.

"Mission Arlington is first a Bible

study but we figure out other ways so people can hear," Burgin said. "Folks don't hear until someone walks with them and helps them."

Although church leaders first anticipated the Bible studies providing prospects for the church, the groups have become their own congregations. Many will never become churches but may continue as separate congregations that meet needs of the people in the apartment communities, said Charles Wade, pastor of First Church, Arlington.

More than 2,000 people can be counted in the Bible study groups in any week. At least 400 persons have been baptized the past four years. Nine congregations are receiving pastoral support from the Baptist General Convention of Texas but at least 100 of the groups may never be more than a Bible study fellowship, Wade said.

Wade encourages other churches to do similar work by finding ways to meet needs in the community. He pointed out a church doesn't have to start 120 groups to be successful. "There are many churches that could start 20 and be successful," he said.

White writes for BSSB.

Tri-County Baptist Missions holds crusades

The Marion County Crusade was held March 22-26 at Gardner Stadium, Columbia, with Jamie Mayorga as the evangelist. According to Archie Herrin, director of missions, Tri-County Baptist Missions (Lawrence, Walthall, and Marion Counties), 433 decisions for Christ were recorded, 241 of which were professions of faith.

In Lawrence County, the crusade

was held March 29-April 2 in a tent adjacent to the Lawrence County Football Field. A total of 332 decisions were recorded, 163 of which were professions. The tent was reported to have been full every night.

"I feel that the crusade really brought our counties together for God. God really used Mayorga and his team to minister the Word of God," said Herrin.



Evangelist Jamie Mayorga

Fall Festival of Marriage set for New Orleans

Fall Festivals of Marriage are exploding coast to coast. The Fall Festival will again be held at the New Orleans Baptist Seminary, Sept. 18-20, 1992. Some of Festival topics are: Better Communication, A Couple's Prayer Life, Sexuality, Conflict Resolution, Self-esteem, Caring for Aging Parents, Workaholicism, Honesty in Marriage, Parenting Issues, and others.

Similar Fall Festivals will be held Oct. 9-11, Oct. 16-18, Oct. 23-25, and Oct. 30-Nov. 1 at Ridgecrest Assembly in North Carolina.

This is a couples-only event. If you cannot attend, offer to keep children so another couple can. Church members may wish to contribute scholarships for other couples or take it from the church budget.

The program fee is \$75 per couple with special discounts for early registration. Call (615) 251-2294 or write Fall Festival of Marriage, Box 24001, Nashville, TN 37203 for more information.

The forgotten ministry

By Don Stanfill

"If I then your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet" (John 13:14).

These passages identify the deity, sovereignty, and servanthood of Jesus Christ. The earthly ministry of Jesus was rapidly moving toward the cross. Jesus here used water and towel in an object lesson that was not to be forgotten. He knew that men are more motivated to put their names on buildings than to bow before a needy world.

Recently, Mohammed Ali celebrated his 50th birthday on national television. He is one of the great heavy weight champions of all time. Often he stood over his defeated foes and said, "I am the greatest!"

How different was the manner and ministry of Jesus. He knelt and washed the dirty feet of his followers. The greatest of all conquerors desired to be remembered by his service to men, not the submission of men. The scripture does not institute another ordinance here, but shows us the spirit of a loving ministry.

There are people around us who need to know we care for them. We must be willing to do for them what others would never think of doing.

In Abraham Lincoln's last public address, delivered in 1865, he was rudely received. Lee had surrendered two days before; the crowd wanted to hear a "victory speech." Instead, Lincoln talked of mercy, reconciliation. The crowd wanted vengeance. They began to ask, "What are you going to do with those rebel leaders?" Some cried out, "Hang them!" Lincoln's 11 year-old son pulled at his father's sleeve and cried, "No, Pap! Don't hang them. Hang on to them!"

Our Lord has given us an example of what he expects. This spirit in ministry must never be forgotten.

Stanfill is director of missions, Lafayette/Marshall Associations.



Stanfill

HOUSETOPS

What I tell you in the darkness, speak in the light; and what you hear whispered in your ear, proclaim upon the housetops. Matthew 10:27 NAS

May 14, 1992

HOUSETOPS is a supplement to the Baptist Record and is produced by the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

ZIMBABWE EXPERIENCE

By Joetta Tillman

First Church, Houston

From a Sunday night mission study at Mantee Baptist Church with June Nolen, I found myself on a plane to Zimbabwe, Africa, in January of this year. I was a member of an evangelistic team of five pastors and five lay people with the Mississippi Zimbabwe Partnership Program. We were asked to share the Gospel in ten churches in Zimbabwe.

Doug Broome, pastor of Calvary Baptist Church in Waynesboro, and I served in churches outside of Bulawayo. We worked with our foreign missionaries, Stan and Iva May. Another dedicated couple that served as our interpreters were Albert and Priscilla Ndlovu. They were a real joy and blessing to us.

Our first day of worship with the people of Zimbabwe is still so fresh on my mind. I was asked to teach a young adult Sunday School class. At the beginning of the lesson I asked if they had any questions and to my surprise no one asked about my homeland, occupation, or my family. These young people wanted to know more about the Bible. They asked advanced biblical questions. We had a good time doing a "Bible drill."

During the worship service that followed, the presence of the Lord was so very much felt. Songs of praise were sung, children quoted their memory verses, and personal testimonies were given. A woman played a drum and sang a solo. Her voice was beautiful. Doug preached on Lazarus and several people responded.

Zimbabwe has opened the door and Mississippi has been asked to join with Baptists there to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ. When God asks "Whom shall I send?" be ready and willing as Isaiah was. I know you, too, can share this blessing.

This is one of a series of testimonials from people who have traveled to Zimbabwe to participate in the Partnership project. Mississippi Baptists have begun with that African country. Other testimonials are scheduled to follow.

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Sun, sand, & Sea FAMILY ENRICHMENT RETREAT

July 6-9, 1992

Gulfshore Baptist Assembly
Pass Christian, Mississippi



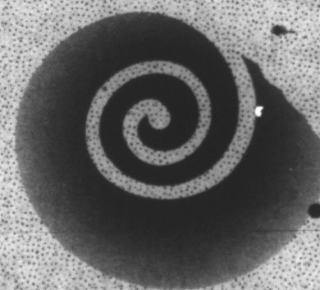
Messages for the Family
MACKLYN HUBBELL
Professor of Psychology and
Counseling
New Orleans Baptist
Theological Seminary

THEME:
"Families Reaching Families"

ADULTS

Conferences:

- Church Family Enrichment Leaders
- A Look at the Cults
- Christian Self-Esteem: Parenting by Grace overview
- Covenant Marriage overview
- Family Systems
- Current Issues Facing the Family

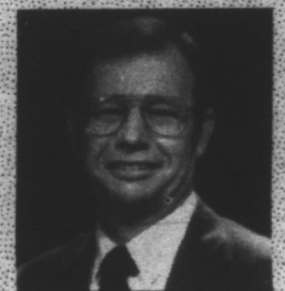
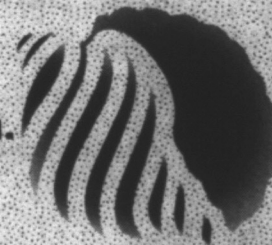


PRESCHOOL CHILDREN & YOUTH

- Planned activities during mornings and evenings

SPECIAL FEATURE

Keith Carpenter, Chalk Artist
joined by his daughter and son.



Theme Interpretation
RAY WELLS
Family Ministry Director
Louisiana Baptist
Convention

Enjoy the sun, sand, gulf, pool, sailboats, swimming, fishing, volleyball, rocking chairs, children, youth, adults, friends - old and new.

Thrill and grow in worship and conferences and have free afternoons and Wednesday with your family.

A DREAM YOU CAN AFFORD - ONE THAT CAN COME TRUE.

For Registration information please call the Discipleship Training Department at 968-3800, ext. 3884

BILL HUTCHINSON: CHAMPION

by Debbie Baird Buie

Bill Hutchinson has had just about every job a layman can have in a church, so he was eager to tackle the task of Cooperative Program Champion. But that's not the real reason he took the job of promoting Cooperative Program giving at First Baptist, Long Beach. He had personal reasons.



"One of our sons is a foreign missionary (Michael in Guinea-Bissau, Africa), so I know the Cooperative Program works," he said. "I've been there and I've seen it at work." He and his wife (who has done "everything a church will let a woman do," according to Hutchinson), have four other sons as well.

Before the Cooperative Program was formulated in 1925, said Hutchinson, who works for a funeral service, things didn't "work out too well." Southern Baptist agencies and causes depended on their independent fund-raising to support their programs and it was sometimes chaotic as they competed for gifts. "I think the Cooperative Program's basic concept is the reason Southern Baptists have successful missions," he said.

As a Champion, Hutchinson has led his church to raise their annual Cooperative Program allocation from 5.4 percent to 10 percent of their overall budget in just the last year and a half. Next year he hopes that will increase to 12 percent, with a goal of 15 percent in the next couple of years.

"And we are not a big church," he said, adding that they average about 400 in Sunday School.

"The problem today is that most people don't know why the Cooperative Program is important or what it does. Our churches don't promote it the way they used to," Hutchinson said. "We must get back to the basic reason for the Cooperative Program and missions, and not turn in upon ourselves so much.

"Especially when you are talking about Bold Mission Thrust. We don't get that by buying song-books and padding pews," he said.

"Matthew 28:18-20 says it all," Hutchinson said, "that and John 3:16."



The Cooperative
Program

HT

MISSISSIPPI PRAYERGRAM

Pray that the shaky cease-fire between Serbia and Croatia will become a permanent solution. 14,000 United Nations peacekeeping troops are to arrive in the area soon. Some 300,000 refugees have crowded into Zagreb. Especially remember Nela Williams, Southern Baptist missionary in Yugoslavia.

Pray for the student construction and ministry team which will be working in Metiche, Russia, June 13-29. Metiche is on the outskirts of Moscow. Believers there have begun work on a church building and need help. There will be 10 students and 2 directors: 6 students and 1 director from Mississippi; 2 students and 1 director from Illinois and 2 students from the Northwest BSU.

Pray that the efforts of Southern Baptists, Korean Baptists and the Iranian government will be able to open a hospital built in Iran 10 years ago but never put into operation. The hospital built by the Iranian government became a "casualty" of the financial strain of Iran's 1980-88 war with Iraq. No opening date is set for the 20-bed hospital. The 14,000 residents of that area have only a first-aid station and ambulance service to the nearest hospital 60 miles away.

Pray for Dick and Lila Risas, who work in rural communities near Worcester, Massachusetts. Many language groups are represented in the area. Pray for personnel to help missionaries who work with these language groups.

Pray that Christian people will find ways to witness to prison inmates. Ruth Wagner Miller in her book, *THE NEW MISSION ACTION BOOK*, points out that the first 60-90 days after inmates are freed from prison are of the greatest importance to them and is the time when they need supportive help and encouragement.

Pray for the results of the insert of Woman's Missionary Union in leading Women's Magazines of the month of May. The 1-800-444-7606 number will give information about WMU and its mission and a free video tape will be sent to the inquirer.

Pray that your church will become involved in the Watchman National Prayer Alert, if it has not already done so. It is not too late to become a part of this team of prayer warriors.

Pray for the 96 students of the Mississippi Baptist Student Union who are to serve during the summer. Their two mottoes are: "BSU Summer Missions — A Great Way to Go" and "Students Changing Our World." There are students serving across the United States and in several foreign countries.

Pray for the National Prayer Conference to be held in Indianapolis before the S.B.C. Pray that the Holy Spirit will work mightily in the convention to accomplish God's Kingdom purposes.

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For more information contact Matt Buckles, consultant for bivo ministry, at the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, 968-3800.

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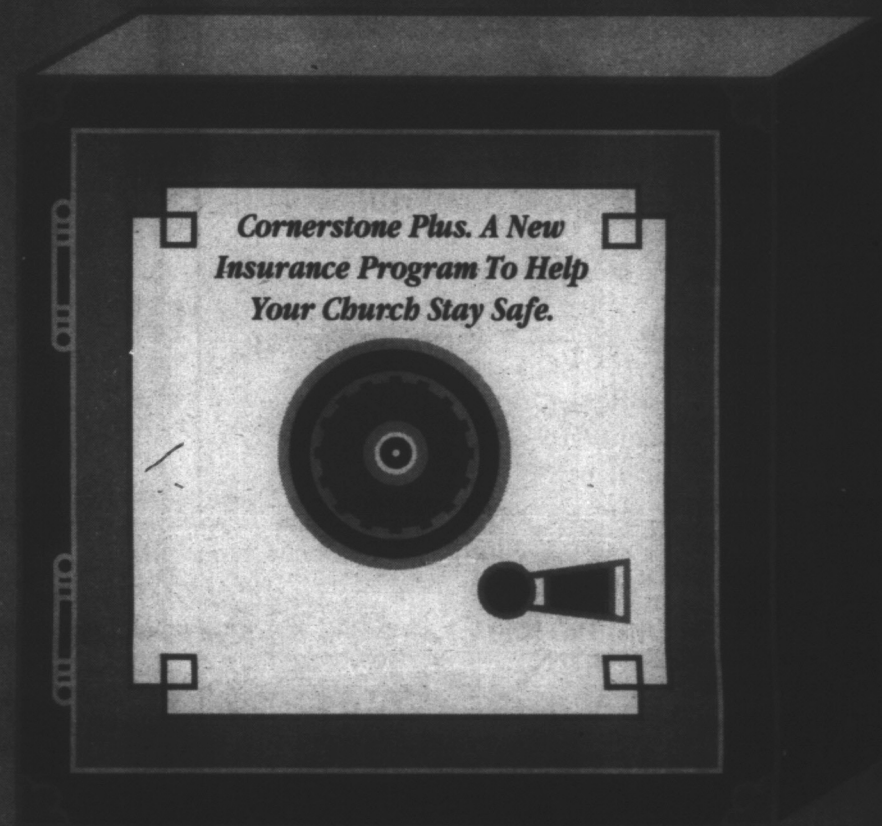
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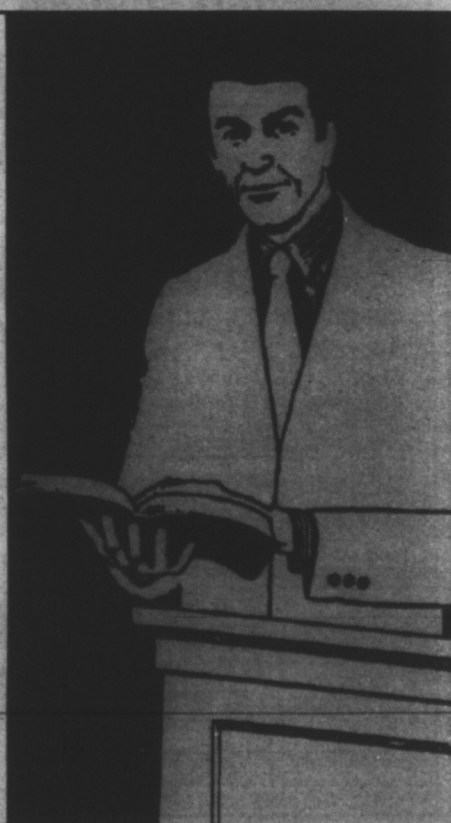
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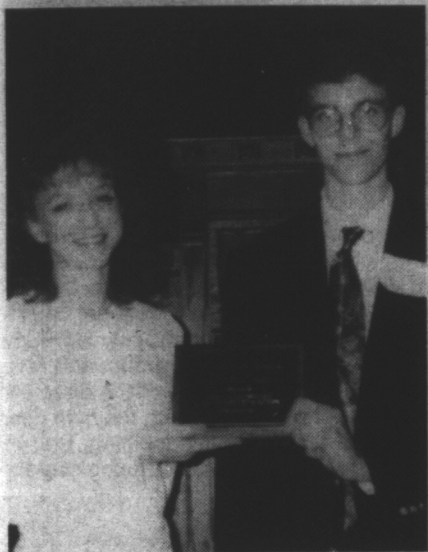
are a life long discipling task. Make plans now for your church to participate in next year's Bible Drill. For more information call the Discipleship Training Department, 968-3800, ext. 3884

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Monday 6:45 p.m. – Noon Friday

Register with Discipleship Training Department in Jackson. (Registration form attached)

House of Lions

Youth four part festival



The judges present an award, at their discretion, to the Outstanding Piano Participant. This year two pianists received the Judges Award. They are Michael Williams from Meridian and Hope Fairchild from Purvis. The judges are music faculty from Miss. Baptist colleges.

Thirteen of the keyboard participants are eligible for a summer music event scholarship which is awarded to those 10th, 11th, and 12th graders receiving a superior rating. This scholarship helps with the cost for the young person to attend a music week at Gulfshore, Ridgecrest or Glorieta.



The 1992 State Youth Four Part Music Festival was held earlier this year at First Church, Brandon. The festival is designed for youths in grades 10, 11 and 12 who have participated in an area festival and received a superior rating. The four areas of the festival are conducting, keyboard, instrumental, and vocal.

Pictured are the keyboard participants. A college music scholarship is awarded by the Church Music Department to graduating seniors who receive a superior rating at the Four Part Festival and have completed all proficiency areas. These College Music Scholarship Award recipients are: Whitney Diane Marx from Hazlehurst; Elizabeth Webb from Amory; Andra Teris "Teri" Rainey from Petal; Patricia L. Nowell from Collins; and Shawn Bingham from Ecru.



Pictured are the young people participating in the vocal part of the Four Part Festival. They are front row, left to right: Hope Fairchild, Julie Burke, Janie Hicks, Audrey Dorroh, Kim Brady, Ashley Vickers, and back row, left to right: Thomas Nations and Sarah Dale Ball. There were also instrumental and conducting participants. All of these participants were awarded a summer music event scholarship for a superior rating at the festival. This festival is sponsored by the Church Music Department, L. Graham Smith, director.

Student from Tupelo receives Rotary Scholarship for N.Z.

David Upchurch from Tupelo, senior history major at Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem, N.C., has received a Rotary International Scholarship to study at Victoria University in Wellington, New Zealand. He will begin the scholarship in February of 1993.

David is the son of attorney Robert Upchurch, and Joann Upchurch, members of Calvary Church, Tupelo. Graduate of Tupelo High School, he is a former Mississippi Boys State governor and is the current student government president at Wake Forest. He was student chairman for a Wake Forest Alumni Telethon which raised \$520,000.

His older brother, Robert, who has taught in China, now teaches English in Oklahoma City. His younger brother, Richard, is a senior in high school at Woodberry Forest School, Woodberry, Va.

Baptized at Calvary Church, Tupelo, when he was 7, he now attends Calvary Church, Winston-Salem. He said, "God has given meaning to my life. Christ has given me a hope, peace, and joy that fulfills; and a strength to live and love life."

He said he chose Wake Forest "because of its academic reputation and its active and close knit community." (AWM)

Out of the mouths of babes come words we shouldn't have said in the first place. — Ruth E. Renke

If we want to possess poise and to be capable of clear thinking, it is essential, first of all, to rise above the confusion of conflicting rumors and diverse opinions and listen to the eternal verities which God has given to men for their guidance and preservation. — Leon Merle Flanders, D.D.

Correction

A story in the April 30 issue of the Baptist Record about the Brotherhood ministry to Russia erroneously listed one of the participants as Jerry Massey of Durant. Actually, the participant is Jerry Bishop, pastor of First Church, Durant.

Thursday, May 14, 1992

BAPTIST RECORD PAGE 7

Area keyboard festivals reach 1,245 participants

The Church Music Department sponsored 11 area keyboard festivals in nine areas of Mississippi shown on the map. There was a total of 1,245 participants in grades 1 through 12 with 270 persons assisting as festival leaders, judges, recorders, runners, and hosts. These participants represented 379 Baptist churches and 188 non-Baptist churches. Seventy-one associations were represented, as well as 166 different cities and towns.

The objectives of the festival are:

- Spiritually . . .**
 - to lead young people to a more meaningful relationship with the Lord through the playing of sacred music
 - to challenge young people to share their faith through music.
- Musically**
 - to encourage the use of keyboard music that is worthy and acceptable for the worship and praise of Christ

- to challenge individuals to set goals for greater accomplishments
- to offer opportunities for hearing others at the keyboard instruments
- to encourage keyboard instructors to teach hymn playing

Generally . . .

- to acquaint Baptist churches with potential for enlisting young people to develop and use their talents in the ministry of the local church

- to encourage greater participation in the associational and state music ministry.

Area keyboard festivals in 1993 will be held January 28, 29 and 30.

Dot Pray is the keyboard contract consultant for the Church Music Department and coordinates these festivals each year. For more information, contact her at 968-3800.

200 will get degrees from Wm. Carey May 16

Over 200 William Carey College students will receive degrees at the college's spring commencement on May 16 at 3 p.m. Featured speaker will be William W. Causey, executive director-treasurer of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

While the majority of candidates will receive one of the several bachelor's degrees offered by the college, there are 40 students who are scheduled to receive graduate degrees. These include six master of business administration, 31 master of education, and three education specialist candidates.

Degrees will be conferred by President James W. Edwards. Tara Sumrall of Hattiesburg and Donovan Casanave of Lacombe, La. will be recognized as recipients of the Jenkins-Chastain Citizenship Award. Named in honor of two former administrators of the college, this award annually acknowledges a man and a woman for exemplary citizenship.

Offering the invocation will be Mary Sadler of Hattiesburg, who is a

member of the graduating class and is a candidate for the bachelor of science degree. The prayer for guidance will be given by Ollie Thomas, a member of the board of trustees; and the benediction will be pronounced by Larry Kennedy, dean of the Cooper School of Missions and Biblical Studies.

Chapman names Credentials and Tellers Committees

WICHITA FALLS, Texas (BP) — SBC President Morris Chapman announced appointments to the final two key committees for the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 9-11, at the Hoosier Dome in Indianapolis.

Mississippians named:
Credentials Committee — Bill Baker, First Church, Clinton.
Tellers Committee: J. Roy McComb, First Church, Columbia; Bill Stewart, First Church, Eupora.



Luncheon honors students at Mississippi Baptist Medical Center

The faculty of the School of Medical Technology and the School of Radiopathy sponsored a luncheon on April 29 to express appreciation for students in those schools at Mississippi Baptist Medical Center, Jackson. The School of Medical Technology at present has five enrolled and the School of Radiopathy has 26. Most of these were present, as well as the faculty and also Kathy Bearden, director of Baptist student work at the hospital. Thirteen of those present will be graduating in June.

Besides receiving a steak lunch and flowers, students heard Gene Rester give impersonations of country music stars. Rester is chief radiologic technologist at MBMC.

Among faculty members who helped to plan the event were Betty Covington, program director, School of Medical Technology and her assistant, Debbie Rawson; Steve Covington, program director, and June Applewhite, instructor, School of Radiopathy.

The BSU, Miss Bearden said, among other activities, sponsors noonday Bible studies for the students thrice weekly. "The instructors are very cooperative in letting them go off-duty to attend these." "These are fine young people," she said, "who often see death and face a lot of hard things. At the hospital they find many opportunities to witness to their faith." (AWM)

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Pastor's widow advises young wives

By Anne W. McWilliams

"Keep your mouth shut." That's Virginia Hannah McGee's advice to young pastors' wives. "Keep your mouth shut. When bad things come along, just endure, for you know that good things are going to come that will overshadow the bad ones."

Her husband, B. B. McGee, was a pastor for 42 years before his death of a heart attack in 1982, the week of a January ice storm. In his hometown of West Point, he shined shoes in his dad's barbershop. Later he started West End Church, West Point. He attended Clarke College, was graduated from Mississippi College *magna cum laude* and winner of the Nelson Oratorical Medal, and attended New Orleans Seminary.

He served many churches in central and north Mississippi, usually for short periods of time. "This is the type of ministry to which God called me," he said. From 1961 to 1963 he was director of missions, Pontotoc Association.

"Stay useful and busy," Virginia advises. She did that while her husband was living and continued it after he died. Though almost 71 when he died, he had not retired but was pastor of Fentress Church, while they were living in her hometown of Sturgis. In weeks following his death, she led Sunday and Wednesday night Bible studies at Fentress (someone else preached Sunday mornings) until the church called a pastor. "It was the best thing I could have done for therapy after Burton's death," she said, "just keeping busy and useful."

At 80, she is still keeping busy and useful. For the first time, she owns her own home; it's at 312 S. Central Avenue, New Albany.



Virginia McGee

One special ministry that keeps her busy is the distribution of literature. When the city's "clothes closet" opens twice a month for dispensing clothes to those who need them, she is present to give away literature, usually that which bears the printed plan of salvation. Also she gives away Bibles. This was a natural avenue of usefulness for her, since she had saved Sunday School quarterlies and WMU materials since the 1930s.

On Mondays she participates in an interdenominational Bible study which meets at the Presbyterian church. And she's a member of what she calls "old folks' Discipleship Training."

Her name would not be Virginia McGee if she were not still active in Woman's Missionary Union at First Church, New Albany, where Tom Sumrall is pastor. Through all the years of being a pastor's wife, she worked in WMU, in the local church,

and in associational and state offices. She was area director in several areas of the state, according to where Burton's pastorates took them. Mission volunteer trips led her to Argentina and Rhode Island.

Her work in the Woman's Missionary Union began in her early 20s. "I was a timid girl then," she said. She was teaching a Sunday School class of boys when the church asked her to direct the youth mission organizations at Sturgis.

"Pray," she advises. "God answers prayer in his own way, and gives you things you would not ever dare to ask him for."

Through the years, she has been faithful in prayer. While still a pastor's wife, before her husband's death, she began preparing monthly prayer sheets for distribution to church members and friends, and she continues. The sheets list for each day one or two missionaries who have a birthday that day. Also they give pertinent information and specific prayer requests for each of those mentioned.

Her daughter, Gwyn, teaches math in New Albany and is married to a state legislator, John David Pennebaker. Gwyn and her three sisters, Ruth Page, Virginia Ann Butler, and Beth Jones, have given their mother eight grandchildren. One granddaughter is married to a preacher and one grandson is considering mission service in Europe. Virginia's brother, Harry Hannah, who preaches in Washington state, is a member of the Foreign Mission Board. Her niece, Hannah Gay, is a missionary to Ethiopia.

"Emphasize this," she said. "The Lord has been good to me."



During the directors of missions annual banquet, 35 directors and their wives attended. Also attending were Nolan Houston, Holmes Carlisle, Ervin Brown, retired directors of missions. John McBride, former director, Cooperative Missions Department, MBCB, and his wife were guests. The meeting began with a banquet on Friday evening and concluded with lunch on Saturday. The program included Judy Vaughn, a ventriloquist from Memphis; the Franks, a family music group, and Mrs. Buddy Woods, who shared her doll making ministry with the wives of the directors of missions. The business session dealt mostly with how to cope with the high cost of health insurance. The Northwest Association hosted this year's meeting. Shown are Bill Smith, Tupelo, DOM, Lee Association, and Mr. and Mrs. Leon Young of Meridian. Young is DOM, Lauderdale.

Deaf ministry, Pascagoula, holds spring weekend Bible retreat

The Deaf Ministry of First Church, Pascagoula, recently held a weekend Bible Retreat led by Larry Barnett, pastor to the deaf, Good Shepherd Baptist Church, Lakeland, Fla.

Barnett, son of deaf parents, led a weekend revival at First Church several years ago. He was also a guest leader at the Mississippi Baptist Conference for the Deaf at Camp Garaywa in October 1991. He has held numerous positions in the Southern Baptist Conference for the Deaf and has pastored several deaf churches. Churches represented during the

weekend were Cottage Hill, Dauphin Way, and Stone Street in Mobile; Franklin Creek, Jackson County; and First Church, Bayou La Batre, Ala. Special guests were Jim Booth, language consultant, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board and pastor for the deaf, Woodland Hills Church, Jackson, and his wife, Edith.

One of the highlights of the weekend was Barnett's sign language interpretation of "People Need the Lord."

Rex Yancey is pastor of First Church, Pascagoula.

Some Afghans listening to gospel, sources say

FRANKFURT, Germany (BP) — People in war-weary Afghanistan have become more open to the Christian gospel in recent weeks as the final takeover of the government by rebel forces has neared, sources here report.

Many Afghans are questioning their future and taking a hard look at spiritual matters, according to Christian sources inside the overwhelming Muslim country.

Sources say minority ethnic groups — such as the Hazara people — are depressed and fear they will be massacred in the chaos and struggle for power caused by the downfall of the formerly Soviet-backed government. The Hazaras are Shiite Muslims who live mostly in Afghanistan's highlands. They number about 5 million and make up 60% of the population in Kabul, the besieged capital.

Two members of one Hazara family recently became Christian believers and other members of the family are studying the Bible, sources reported. The family has twice seen a video on the life of Christ.

Christians in Afghanistan have issued a call for believers in the West to pray for the Hazara people in the coming days as Afghanistan experiences tumultuous change.



50 years for WMU

Evansville Church, Northwest Association, Tate County, presented Mrs. Pheriba Baker an engraved plaque in honor of her 50 years of service in WMU work. In 1931 Woman's Missionary Union was organized in her home. She has actively worked in all organizations and is currently serving as WMU director. Presenting the plaque is Jeanette Fielder, wife of Bernette Fielder, pastor.

Chickasaw calls director of missions

John Wayne King became director of missions for Chickasaw Association on May 1. A native of Ripley, King is



King

a graduate of Blue Mountain College. For the past five years, he has served as pastor of Arbor Grove Church in Houston. Prior to that, he pastored churches in Tenn. and Miss. He and his wife Gladys have three grown children.

Two women win awards for music writing

Two area women were among the winners in a Christian composition contest.

Cissi Majure of Quitman won second place and Betty Hurt Fillingane of Waynesboro won third place in the children's music category.

Majure teaches public school music at Clarksdale Attendance Center and is active in the music program at First Church of Quitman. Her composition was performed by the children's choirs of her church on May 10.

Fillingane studied with the late Mrs. E. H. Hart of the Meridian School of Music and is a former piano teacher.

Other winners were from Kansas, Arizona, Arkansas, Louisiana, California, Florida, Ohio, Illinois and Minnesota.

The purpose of this competition was to discover and encourage publication of original choral Christian music. Four categories — Adult, Youth, Children, and Solo — were included.

1920 — Blue Mountain College was given to the Baptist State Convention by the Lowrey and Berry families. It had been founded in 1873 and is the oldest college for women in the state.

1922 — The 100th anniversary of the organization of the first Baptist State Convention was celebrated with a special issue of the Baptist Record and a program at the state fair with a mammoth parade and pageant.

Nothing makes you wonder what you said more than having someone tell you what they heard. — Franklin P. Jones (in Quote Magazine)

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Missionary news

James and Brenda Hearn, missionaries to Togo, have arrived in France for language study (address: 14, rue Chateaubriand, 37300 Joue-les-Tours, France). He is a native of Corinth, Miss., and she is the former Brenda Hunt of Bogalusa, La.

James and Carolyn McAtee, missionaries to Southern Asia and the Pacific, may be addressed at P. O. Box 32, Bangkok 10501, Thailand. Both are natives of Jackson, Miss.; she is the former Carolyn Mahaffey.

Jeffery and Nell Ginn, missionaries to Colombia, are in language study (address: Apartado 100, 2350 San Francisco de Dos, San Jose, Costa Rica). He is a native of Arkansas. The former Nell Nichols, she was born in Memphis, and considers Byhalia, Miss., her hometown.

William and Carolyn Smith, missionaries to Brazil, are on the field (address: Caixa Postal 338, 86.001 Londrina, PR, Brazil). He is a native of Amite County, Miss. She is the former Carolyn Brand of Orlando, Fla.

Baptist communicators win top interfaith awards

By Robert O'Brien

MINNEAPOLIS (BP) — Baptist communicators led all other competitors, winning 22 of 70 awards presented in the annual DeRose/Hinkhouse Awards of the Religious Public Relations Council.

Other top winners included Roman Catholics with 10 awards followed by Presbyterians and Lutherans with seven each in the competition of the international, interfaith organization of religious communicators.

The Foreign Mission Board in Richmond, Va., with 10 awards,

and the Baptist Sunday School Board in Nashville, Tenn., with five, led the Baptist contingent. Bethel College and Seminary, a Baptist General Conference school in St. Paul, Minn., won three awards.

Other Southern Baptist winners were the Woman's Missionary Union in Birmingham, Ala., with two, and the Executive Committee in Nashville, and the Missouri Baptist Convention in Jefferson City, Mo., with one each.

O'Brien writes for FMB.

Nacel seeks Mississippi host families for exchange students

Mississippi families are needed for French and Spanish students who are ages 13 to 18. French students will be traveling to the U. S. to stay July 15-Aug. 12, and Spanish students from July 2-July 29.

Through Nacel cultural exchanges, host families open their homes to a student for four weeks, providing room, board, and hospitality. The student is free to take part in the family's activities. Students bring their own spending money; medical and accident insurance is provided by Nacel, a non-profit organization which has been a participant in the President's International Youth Exchange Initiative.

Jim and Debbie Gorney of Vicksburg are Nacel coordinators in Mississippi. They list as rewards of hosting a student: "Learn about France and Spain without leaving home, share American lifestyle, learn about community by sharing it, involve family and friends, help bring the world together, one friendship at a time."

For further information about this program, contact the Gomeys at 129 Robin Hood Road, Vicksburg, MS 39180 phone (601) 636-4609. A lead of one month is needed to process the papers. Great effort is made to match the student with the family.

African American Fellowship to organize, honor McCall

By Art Toalston

INDIANAPOLIS (BP) — The African American Fellowship of the Southern Baptist Convention will hold its organizational meeting June 8 and honor Emmanuel L. McCall, longtime Home Mission Board liaison with black churches.

The fellowship has met for a luncheon or dinner, a program and dialogue for some 10 years in connection with the annual SBC meeting, said E.W. McCall Sr., one of the fellowship's organizers and pastor of St. Stephen Baptist Church in La Puente, Calif. (The HMB's McCall and pastor McCall are no relation.)

The fellowship's organizational meeting and program will begin at 11:45 a.m. June 8 at the Holiday Inn, Union Station, in Indianapolis, host city for this year's June 9-11 annual SBC meeting.

Toalston writes for BP.

1942—The Mississippi Union Theological Seminary was established at Prentiss, under the leadership of Herbert L. Lang. In 1948 the charter was amended, the name changed to the Mississippi Baptist Seminary, and the institution moved to Jackson.

RESOLUTIONS

From page 3

the SBC Executive Committee, 901 Commerce St., Suite 750, Nashville, TN, 37203, "Attention: Committee on Resolutions."

Copies of each proposed resolution submitted in advance will be shared with all 10 committee members, Mohler said.

Three members of the Resolutions Committee must be members of the SBC Executive Committee, according to bylaws. They include Julian Motley, pastor of Gorman Church in Durham, N.C.; Joe H. Reynolds, attorney and member of Second Church, Houston; and Rex

Terry, attorney and member of First Church in Fort Smith, Ark.

Other members are Curt Dodd, pastor of Metropolitan Church in Houston; Gary Frost, pastor of Rising Star Church in Youngstown, Ohio; Charles E. Jackson Sr., insurance executive and member of Cottage Hills Church in Mobile, Ala.; Jo Ann Miller, educator and member of First Church in De Soto, Mo.; Ben Watts, merchant and member of First Church in Columbia, Miss.; Bobby Welch, pastor of First Church in Daytona Beach, Fla.; and Mohler, who is a member of Atkinson Road Church in Lawrenceville, Ga.

Thursday, May 14, 1992

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PULLEN

From page 3

ness and celibacy."

— "The 'blessing' of a homosexual union in a Christian ceremony is particularly offensive in that it gives approval to that which has been specifically forbidden."

— "All humans sin, and the church is part of God's strategy to

make his grace and redemption available to human kind. While Baptist churches, in general, reject homosexual behavior as a lifestyle, many are engaged in ministry to and with homosexuals."

— "An unflinching stand for the biblical way of expressing human

sexuality should in no way be interpreted as a reason for personal attacks on homosexuals. Violence of any kind — physical, verbal, or political — against persons for any reasons is specifically denounced."

Puckett is editor of North Carolina BIBLICAL RECORDER.

Hepzibah Church celebrates 175th anniversary

Hepzibah Church (Lawrence) will celebrate its 175th anniversary on May 24. Services will begin at 9:30 a.m. with Sunday School and will continue with an extended worship service beginning at 10:30 a.m.

There will be the recognition of several members, memories from former pastors, and singing. The speaker will be Bill Causey, executive director, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

There will be an old fashioned "dinner on the grounds." The day will conclude with an afternoon singing beginning about 1 p.m. with The Gospel Folk Singers from Foxworth. Jimmy T. Smith Jr. is pastor.

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Just for the Record

Fredonia Church, New Albany, recently broke ground for a new sanctuary and educational building. The facility will contain a 325 seat sanctuary and upstairs sound room, restrooms, library, offices, and classrooms. Pictured, left to right, are H. Gregg Thomas, pastor; building committee members Tim Hall, Kereth Weeden, Edgar Hall, Narson McMillen, Joyce Grisham, Sheryl Clayton, Vickie Rowland; and Mike Bell, chairman of deacons.



Mississippi Baptist Medical Center's third annual "Mother/Daughter Seminar" was held April 11. The purpose of the seminar was to bring mothers and daughters together to provide an atmosphere of love and learning and to establish a foundation for respect and continued communication between parent and child. Speakers were, from left, Brenda Chance, child, adolescent, and family therapist with Central Psychiatry and Psychology Clinic; Ginnie Ingram, RN, instructor at Jackson Academy; and Cindy Townsend, youth minister at First Church, Jackson.

Homecomings

Mt. Gilead, Meridian: May 17; Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.; worship, 10:45 a.m.; dinner in fellowship hall; Tom Espy, speaker; Jim Smith, pastor.

Causeyville, Meridian: May 17; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; worship, 11 a.m.; Byron Malone, guest speaker; dinner on grounds at noon.

Bellevue, Thaxton (Pontotoc): May 17; 11 a.m.; Tommy Inmon, Pontotoc, guest speaker; dinner in fellowship hall, noon; singing, 1 p.m.; Bo Lowery, Thaxton, guest singer; Lamar Pickens, pastor.

Calvary, Bogue Chitto: 89th year; May 17; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; worship, 11 a.m.; James Porch, Tullahoma, Tenn., guest

speaker; covered dish, noon; afternoon singing; donations for cemetery; Emon White, pastor.

State Boulevard, Meridian: May 16 and 17; 40th anniversary; Sat. services, 6 p.m., reception honoring former and present staff members; Sun., Sunday School, 9:30 a.m., Dennis R. Jones, pastor, message, and T. R. Darsey, minister of music, at 10:45 a.m. services; dinner on grounds; special guests include William Henderson, W. A. Robinson, and William F. Evans.

Wayside, Yalobusha County: May 17; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; worship, 11; noon luncheon; afternoon singing; Harris Counce, guest speaker.

Revival dates

Bellevue, Thaxton: May 18-22; Tommy Inmon, Liberty Church, Pontotoc, evangelist; Bo Lowery, Piney Grove Church, Thaxton, music; 7 p.m.; Lamar Pickens, pastor.

Newhebron (Lawrence): May 17-20; Leon Kilbreth, Herrin, Ill., evangelist; Darryl Petry, Newhebron Church, music; Sunday, regular services; weekdays, 7 p.m.; Charles E. Davis Sr., pastor.

Johnson Creek, State Line: May 17-22; homecoming, May 17, 11 a.m.; dinner in fellowship hall; afternoon singing with the Gulf City Boys; no night services; Hardy Denham, coordinator, church-related vocations, William Carey College, guest speaker; revival, 7 p.m. nightly; Keith Thompson, pastor.

European Convention sends a call for help

Interested in going to Europe and helping plant English language churches in international cities? Twenty new churches is the goal for the next four years. Write European Baptist Convention, Sonnenberger Str. 60, 6200 Wiesbaden, Germany, or fax to 011-49-611-590883.

Staff changes

Gary Berry, pastor of Temple Church, Hattiesburg, has resigned, effective June 1. His letter of resignation was read during May 10 worship services. It listed physical, professional, and personal considerations as reasons for resignation. Berry has served Temple for three years.

Hebron Christian School, Pheba, was destroyed by fire in October 1991. Faith Church, Starkville, offered the use of its new educational building for the remainder of the school year. Mark Smith is principal.

B.J. Frew, BSU director, retires

B.J. Frew has served as director of the Hinds Community College BSU for 34 years. She is retiring at the end of May and returning to her home in Birmingham, Ala. Raymond Church, Raymond, and the HCC BSU will host "B.J. Day" on Sunday, May 24, during the 8:30 and 11 a.m. services at Raymond Church where B.J. has been a member for 34 years. A special worship service will be held 4 p.m. at Cain Auditorium on HCC campus. After this time of worship a reception will be held at the BSU building at 5 p.m.

Mini-weeks open at Camp Garaywa

All full weeks of camp at Camp Garaywa are filled for this summer. There are still some places to be filled in the GA mini-week camp on June 29-July 1 and the Acteen mini-week camp on June 3-5. Any girls interested in the mini-camps should contact Camp Garaywa at 924-7034. Registration for Acteen mini-camp at Central Hills on June 15-17 is still open. Please contact the WMU office at 968-3800.

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LIFE AND WORK

Threatened yet loyal



By Lola M. Autry
Mark 13:9-13; Revelation 2:8-11

A young man was at my house today. He had just quit school because his peers had made fun of him. He talked differently, he did not dress like them, he felt persecuted. He came to me for comfort but I gave none. I finally showed him he had failed himself. By giving up, he had been disloyal to his educational obligation and opportunity. We fail both ourselves and Jesus when we are not loyal to him and his teachings in spite of persecutions. The apostle Paul was beaten and jailed. Stephen was stoned to death. Today, some have lost jobs and family because of loyalty to the Master. Paul, in 2 Corinthians 4:17 writes, "For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory." Paul is saying that whatever happens to us on this earth because we are loyal to Jesus will be bearable, and the eternal reward will be glorious.

Assurance in suffering (Mark 13:9, 11-13). We are given two assurances. First, loyalty to Christ will bring trials, tribulations, and suffering. Second, we have his promise — and he never fails to keep his promises — that those "that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved."

The risen Lord: Eternal One (Rev. 2:8). This verse affirms who Jesus is. He is "the first and last, which was dead and is alive." John 1:1-3 tells us Jesus was from the beginning. The Gospels tell us he arose from the dead and ascended to heaven. He is, and always will be.

Commendation: A spiritually rich people (Rev. 2:9). Jesus is speaking through John to the church in Smyrna. The city of Smyrna was a place of suffering for Christians. Jesus knew this. He spoke of tribulations and poverty, and also of the works of those who were loyal to him. He commended them and pointed out that, even so, they were rich. They had the riches of the kingdom of God. The city represented death, anxiety, poverty, tribulation, distress, suffering, and other tragedies. We face these today. Jesus offered help and hope to those who loved him. His offer still stands.

Exhortation: Endure to the end (Rev. 2:10). The conquering Jesus who holds the seven stars (messengers of the seven churches) in his right hand and walks in the midst of the seven candlesticks (the churches) admonished: "Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer." How can we help fearing them? There is only one way: through him. He says we will suffer. Some will be imprisoned. There will be tribulation. But he guarantees victory.

Promise: Victory over death (Rev. 2:11). The promise: "He that overcometh shall not be hurt of the second death." What is the second death? It is eternal death spent in hell with the devil; an agonizing death that has no end. Jesus is victor over sin and death. With him as Savior we obtain the victory also. We are called upon to be faithful to him.

In China several years ago a group of underground believers met at a house to worship. A knock on the door revealed two soldiers. They entered. "Which of you are Christians?" one asked. All stood. "You have a chance to deny Christ and walk out of here," they said. No one moved. The offer was repeated. One man slowly went out; then another, and another. The rest refused to move. The soldiers closed the door. Awaiting death, the Christians stood. The soldiers advanced, then smiled. "We're Christians, too," they said, "but we had to find out who was loyal to him."

The world challenges us about our love for Jesus. How do we stand?

Autry lives in Hickory Flat, and is a member of Pine Grove Church.



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BIBLE BOOK

An appeal for maturity



By Charles Nestor
2 Corinthians 6:14-18; 7:2-3, 8-12

Paul continued to defend himself and the gospel he proclaimed. He insisted that everything he did with the Corinthians was open and honest, and he wanted them to receive him in the same manner. Paul wanted them to grow in Christ.

I. An appeal for separateness (6:14-18). Paul knew the background of the Corinthians, and he was concerned about the influence the pagan world would have on their Christian commitment. The Christian faith is opposite of paganism, so they have nothing in common. Paul feared the pagan influence would draw them back to some of their old immoral habits. He warned them against being "unequally yoked." A yoke is a harness placed on two animals so they can pull a load together. The warning was that they were not to have too many close ties with pagans and the old life. Otherwise, there will be a great temptation to revert back to the old ways of life. Instead, Paul challenged them to separate themselves to serving God. They were to realize they represent Christ to the world. Their bodies were to be the temples of the Holy Spirit.

Paul used a series of contrasts to illustrate that God and sin do not mix. Christians are to appear different from the world. In Romans 6, Paul appealed for Christians to present their bodies as instruments of righteousness to God because they are alive in Christ. In Romans 12, we are admonished to present our bodies as a living sacrifice to God.

This message needs to be heard today, and it applies to all areas of living. We are only asking for trouble when we become "unequally yoked" with the world. It is true in marriage relationships. God's ideal for every person is to seek a mate who is in agreement with his spiritual commitments. Otherwise, it usually leads to some very difficult days. This challenge also applies to vocation, business, friendships, recreation, entertainment, etc. Our Christian faith is to make a difference in our conduct of living; what we do is important to God. There is an old saying that states, "If he is Lord at all, he must be Lord of all."

If you are a Christian, the world should know you are different. There is an added blessing for those who separate themselves from the world: God becomes their Father and they are his children.

II. An appeal for repentant hearts (7:2-3, 8-12). Paul pleaded for acceptance by the Corinthians. He continued to insist that he had not harmed anyone. He wanted a good relationship with the Corinthians. Paul heard about some trouble they were having, and he wrote the church a very stern letter. The letter caused them some pain and Paul worried whether he did the right thing. Now he was convinced it was right. The letter just hurt for a short time, but it served the purpose of helping them in their Christian life. He was sorry that it caused them to hurt, but he was not sorry he wrote the letter. In his explanation, Paul contrasted godly sorrow with what might be called worldly sorrow. Godly sorrow recognizes that you have sinned against God. The Corinthians' sin was not that they wronged Paul, but they failed to recognize him as a true ambassador for Christ. Paul's letter caused them to see that and make a change. They even disciplined the person who attacked Paul.

Genuine repentance always leads to a changed life. In contrast, worldly sorrow is to grieve over getting caught. This sorrow does not lead to any change. Paul lists the results of godly sorrow in the life of the Corinthian church. His concern was for their benefit, not to bring harm in any way. This should challenge us to deal with our problems with openness and love. Christians are to deal with their differences in a different manner than the world. The message is on target for our world, our denomination, and church. Our conflicts must be handled in love, with our eyes on the will of God and not our desires. God loves a broken and contrite heart. What is the condition of yours? Nestor is pastor, First Church, Bruce.

UNIFORM

Excellent exhortations



By Bobby Williamson
1 Peter 5:1-11

There are many excellent books being written today concerning the matter of living the Christian life in a way that is pleasing to God. While these certainly may be helpful, none can compare to our text from God's Word concerning some basic commandments on living the Christian life. God's Word is certainly to be our primary instruction when it comes to this matter of proper Christian living.

I. Exhortations to elders (5:1-4)

In verse 2, elders are exhorted to "feed the flock of God." Who are the elders in our churches? Matthew Henry says, "to the presbyters, pastors, and spiritual guides of the church, elders by office, rather than by age." In the following verses we are given instruction on the pastor's role and the manner in which he is to conduct it. How is the pastor to feed the flock? The most important manner of feeding the flock is by preaching and teaching the perfect Word of God. The biblical admonition here is also that the pastor of the church should also take the oversight thereof, leading them in such a direction and discipline as the Word of God prescribes.

In my study of exciting, growing churches, I find inevitably churches that have strong pastoral leadership, pastors who exercise leadership in their churches according to God's command. How are pastors to lead? Peter commands us to serve and be examples for our flocks. This would include the practice of holiness, self-denial, and other Christian characteristics which we preach to our people.

II. Exhortations to younger men (5:5)

A nonsubmissive attitude is nothing new with our generation. It has been a problem down through the ages. Mutual submission in the life of a believer is a vital principle that we each should learn. Peter tells the younger men to submit to the older, and all to be subject to one another. Verse 6 admonishes each of us to humility, the great preserver of peace and tranquility for the church. Of all places in the world, we should be at peace with our church families. God honors the humble, and resists the proud. Pride in our churches has bound many precious souls in misery for too long.

III. Exhortation to be vigilant (5:8-9)

Verse 8 says, "Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour." In being vigilant we are not to be careless, but rather suspicious of constant danger from our spiritual enemy, and to be watchful and diligent. The devil is our adversary. He is the grand accuser of all brethren, seeking to poison our souls. Peter also describes him as a roaring lion, hungry, strong, cruel, and vicious. The design of Satan is to take as many souls to hell as he might. In this battle he is diligent and unwearied. We are instructed by Peter to resist the devil in faith.

IV. Promise of ultimate victory (5:10-11)

Some time ago I was watching a replay of a ball game on one of the sports networks. Johnson, my 13-year-old, came into the room toward the end of the game, and I made the bold prediction of just who would win this close game. What he did not know was that I had already seen the end of this game once. This, too, is the message of the final two verses. Life is a battle, but the winner has already been chosen. Peter assures each of us as Christians that God ultimately will make us victorious.

Each of us as a believer is to obey the basic commandments Peter gives us for living the Christian life. Let each of us this week renew our commitments to obey these commandments more fully in our lives.

Williamson is pastor, Park Place Church, Brandon.

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DOMs will seek divine directions pre-SBC

INDIANAPOLIS (BP) — "Discovering Divine Directions" will be the theme of the 31st annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Conference of Associational Directors of Missions prior to the June 9-11 Southern Baptist Convention in Indianapolis.

The June 7-8 DOM meeting will explore, "How do you find where God is at work?" said conference president Glenn Hickey, director of missions of the Pulaski Association in Little Rock, Ark. Answers to the question "should provide us clues for developing our mission strategy for the future for local Baptist associations," Hickey said.

The conference theme was sparked by Henry Blackaby, Home Mission Board director for prayer and spiritual awakening who addressed last year's DOM meeting, Hickey said.

One of the meetings key emphases will be volunteerism. Reginald McDonough, executive director of the Baptist General Association of Virginia, will speak on "Divine Directions ... in Volunteerism" during the 2:15 p.m. Sunday session, June 7.

A panel discussion on volunteerism will follow with four associational leaders: Jim Pearce, director of lay ministries of the Greater Boston Association; Glen Williams, DOM of the Pike Association in McComb, Miss.; Bill Moyle, DOM of the Tampa Bay (Fla.) Association; and Allen West, retired DOM of the Long Run Association in Louisville, Ky.

The two-day DOM meeting, in the Holiday Inn North, will begin

with worship at 10 a.m. June 7 led by Larry Martin, first vice president of the DOM conference and DOM of the Greater Baptist Association. Jim Herrington, DOM of Union Association in Houston, will preach.

The 1 p.m. session June 7 will include Hickey's president's address; a message by David Aker, DOM of the Pulaski Association in Somerset, Ky.; and Bible study led by Vernon Davis, vice president for academic affairs at Midwestern Seminary, Kansas City, Mo.

Jimmy Draper, president of the Baptist Sunday School Board in Nashville, will speak on divine directions at the SBC agency during the 4 p.m. session June 7; Preston North, DOM of the Eastern North Dakota Association, will speak on divine directions in that state.

The 6:30 p.m. program June 7 will feature foreign missions including comments by R. Keith Parks, retiring president of the Foreign Mission Board in Richmond, Va.

The 8:15 a.m. program June 8 will include messages on divine directions in retirement by James Walker, retired DOM of the Eastern Indiana Association in Indianapolis; in devotional life by Dennis Betts, DOM of the Greater Cleveland (Ohio) Association; in personal crisis by Doug Benedict, DOM of the Lamar Association in Purvis, Miss.; and from the DOM-wife's perspective by Norma Mackey of Waynesboro, Miss. Barry Landrum, associate pastor of Second Church in Houston, will deliver the closing address.

Toalston writes for BP.

MBTS holds alum luncheon

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — The Alumni Association of Midwestern Seminary will meet for its annual luncheon in Indianapolis, during the 1992 Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting, June 9-11. The luncheon will be held June 10, 12:15 p.m. at the Embassy Suites Hotel, 110 W. Washington St., near the Hoosier Dome.

The luncheon program will include an update on the seminary by MBTS

President Milton Ferguson, and presentation of Alumni of the Year and Honorary Alumni awards.

Advance tickets are \$13 per person, and may be reserved by writing to the Alumni Office, Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, 5001 N. Oak St. Trafficway, Kansas City, MO 64118; or by calling (816) 453-4600.

During the convention, tickets may be purchased in the exhibit hall at the seminary booth for \$17.

Mississippians nominated trustees for commissions and committees

NASHVILLE (BP) — Mississippi trustees to serve on the commissions and committees of the Southern Baptist Convention have been nominated by the 1992 Committee on Nominations.

They will serve if elected by the messengers to the Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting June 9-11 in the Hoosier Dome in Indianapolis.

AMERICAN SEMINARY COMMISSION (16 members): 5 nominations considered; 3 new members, 2 renominations.

Nominated for additional term, expiring in 1996, is Billy W. Murphy Sr., Saucier, Miss.

CHRISTIAN LIFE COMMISSION (33 members): 12 nominations considered; 5 new members, including one from the Pennsylvania-South Jersey Convention, and 7 renominations.

At-large members of the Public Affairs Committee with remaining terms were elected to serve

as members of the Christian Life Commission by action of the SBC, June 4-6, 1991. Not to be replaced is: Robbie Hughes, Jackson, Miss., who resigned.

HISTORICAL COMMISSION (29 members): 8 nominations considered; 4 new members including a new representative of the Pennsylvania-South Jersey Convention, and 4 renominations.

Nominated for additional term, expiring in 1996, is Roy T. Myers, Lucedale, Miss.

RADIO AND TELEVISION COMMISSION (29 members): 11 nominations considered; 8 new members including a new representative of the Pennsylvania-South Jersey Convention, and 3 renominations.

Nominated for additional term, expiring in 1996, is D.J. Benson, Laurel, Miss.

Mississippian nominated as New Orleans Seminary trustee

NASHVILLE (BP) — Trustees to serve on the boards of the six Southern Baptist seminaries have been nominated by the 1992 Committee on Nominations.

Under convention bylaws, seminary trustees serve five-year terms and are eligible to serve two consecutive terms.

In order to serve, the trustees must be elected by messengers to the 1992 annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 9-11, at the

Hoosier Dome in Indianapolis.

NEW ORLEANS SEMINARY (39 members): 12 nominations considered; 8 new members including a new member from Pennsylvania-South Jersey Convention, 4 renominations.

Nominated to term expiring in 1997, replacing trustees ineligible for re-election is: Jerry Adkins, surgeon and member of First Church, Biloxi, Miss., replacing Paul G. Mosk, Jackson, Miss.

Executive Committee, board nominees are recommended

NASHVILLE (BP) — Nominees to serve on the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee and the four denominational boards — Foreign Mission Board, Home Mission Board, Sunday School Board, and the Annuity Board — have been selected by the 1992 Committee on Nominations.

They will serve if elected by the messengers to the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention at the Hoosier Dome in Indianapolis, June 9-11.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (78 members): 20 nominations considered; 7 new members, 12 renominations, one to be filled in Indianapolis.

Nominees, with terms to expire in 1996, replacing members ineligible for re-election include:

John O. Yarbrough, pastor of Tabernacle Church, Cartersville, Ga., replacing John T. Tippett of Savannah, Ga.; David Joseph Tolliver, pastor of Calvary Church, St. Louis, replacing Wallace E. Jones of Bridgeton, Mo.; J.W. "Bill" Phillips, pastor of Kennewick Church, Kennewick, Wa., replacing Doyle J. Collins of Roseburg, Ore.; Gary L. Frost, pastor of Rising Star Church, Youngstown, Ohio, replacing Kenneth L. Mahanes of Dayton, Ohio; John Wallace, businessman and member of First Baptist Church, Morristown, Tenn., replacing Joe B. Warwick of Knoxville, Tenn.

Also nominated for terms expiring in 1996: Clyde H. Freed Jr., pastor of Trinity Church, Hyattsville (Germantown), Md., replacing Walter S. Tomme Jr., of Washington who declined to serve another term; Ronald Ralph Huffman, pastor of Middletown Church, Middletown, R.I., replacing James C. Wideman of Portsmouth, N.H., who moved.

Nominated for second terms are Joy Dorsett, Birmingham, Ala.; J.C. Mitchell, Winter Park, Fla.; David T. Gray, Radcliff, Ky.; Gayden Jones, Baton Rouge, La.; Russ Priddy Jr., Baltimore, Md.; Blaine S. Barber, Petoskey, Mich.; Russell Bush Jr., Hattiesburg, Miss.; David C. Brown, Las Vegas, Nev.; Julian M. Motley, Durham, N.C.; Jerry D. Brown, Edmond, Okla.; Forrest M. Whittington, Florence, S.C.; and T.C. Pinckney, Alexandria, Va.

FOREIGN MISSION BOARD (89 members): 25 nominations considered; 10 new members, 15 renominations. If approved by messengers, two local trustee terms which expire in 1992 will not be replaced.

Nominees, with terms expiring in 1996, to replace members who are ineligible for re-election include:

O. David Taunton, physician and member of Brookwood Church, Birmingham, Ala., replacing John H. Thomas Jr., of Old Spanish Fort, Ala.; Larry Weaver, pastor of Parkwood Church, Jacksonville, Fla., replacing Bryan W. Judge Jr., of Kissimmee, Fla.; Phyllis B. Malcom, homemaker and member of First Church of Camilla, Ga., replacing Mrs. James Gilbert of Brunswick, Ga.

Glen D. Flowers, pastor of Oakhill Church, Evansville, Ind., replacing E. Harmon Moore of Danville, Ind.; Terrell D. Maya, physician and member of Severns Valley Church, Elizabethtown, Ky., replacing William L. Hancock of Louisville, Ky.; Paul Pressler, attorney and member of First Church, Houston, replacing Paul B. Martin of Houston.

Charles T. Gresham, pastor of Temple Church, Central City, Ky., will be nominated for a term expiring in 1993 as the result of the resignation of Beverly Cathey of Ashland, Ky. Sam Cathey, pastor of Graceway Church, Oklahoma City, will be nominated for a term expiring in 1994 as the result of the resignation of Gary A. Smith of Enid, Okla.

If messengers approve, two local trustee positions will not be replaced upon the completion of the terms of M. Hunter Riggins of Poquoson, Va., and Paula Hemphill of Virginia Beach, Va.

Nominated to additional terms, expiring in 1996, are: N. Rob Martin, Auburn, Ala.; Alan J.

Thompson Jr., Phoenix, Ariz.; Leon Hyatt Jr., Pineville, La.; Terry L. Williams, Batesville, Miss.; Paul Lewis Brooks, Raytown, Mo.; Roger W. Knapton, Endicott, N.Y.; Paul Steven Hardy, Burlington, N.C.; Rod H. Masteller, Oklahoma City; Donald C. Purvis Sr., Hartsville, S.C.; Jack C. Parrott, Kingsport, Tenn.; Paige Patterson, Dallas; Bill Sutton, McAllen, Texas; Phyllis A. Randall, Blacksburg, Va.; Lester L. Hall, Beckley, W.Va.; Karen Gilbert, Hampton, Va.; and Gary M. Burden, Newport News, Va.

HOME MISSION BOARD (89 members): 24 nominations to be considered; 12 new members, 12 renominations. If messengers approve, one local trustee position, a term expiring in 1994 and held by Rachel Howard of Doraville, Ga., until her recent death, will not be replaced.

Nominees, with terms expiring in 1996, to replace members who are ineligible for re-election include:

Thomas S. Rainer, pastor of Green Valley Church, Birmingham, Ala., replacing Joe Bob Mizzell of Tuscaloosa, Ala.; Ronnie L. Mayes, pastor of First Church, Beebe, Ark., replacing Johnny Jackson of Little Rock, Ark.; Osal J. Evans, retired state trooper and member of First Church, Sylvania, Ga., replacing J. Don Aderhold of Decatur, Ga.; Michael W. Everson, pastor of Second Church, Warner Robins, Ga., replacing Rufus Reginald Joiner of Albany, Ga.; Ron C. Meyer, pastor of First Church, Zion, Ill., replacing Claude A. Hambleman of Duquoin, Ill.

John "Mark" Bond, pastor of Second Church, Princeton, Ky., replacing Wendell Romans of Lexington, Ky.; Ronald Tucker, insurance company president and member of Carmel Church, Charlotte, N.C., replacing Thomas M. Freeman, Dunn, N.C.; A. Ray Newcomb, pastor of First Church, Millington, Tenn., replacing William H. Delaney, Chattanooga, Tenn.; Charles G. Fuller, pastor of First Church, Roanoke, Va., replacing Albert E. Simms of Richmond, Va.; and Jean Thompson, business owner and member of Cardinal Church, Rutherford Glenn (Bowling Green), Va., replacing Mrs. Ellington B. Wheeler of Springfield, Va.

Gerald Davidson, pastor of First Church, Arnold, Mo., will be nominated to replace Gene F. Phillips of Kahoka, Mo., for a term expiring in 1996. Phillips declined to serve another term. James Guenther, pastor of Trinity Church, Schenectady, N.Y., will be nominated to replace Jon F. Meek Jr., of Aberdeen, N.J., for a term expiring in 1993. Meek resigned his post.

Nominated for additional terms, expiring in 1996, are: Edwin L. Hayes, Cullman, Ala.; Martin L. Starnes, Delta Junction, Alaska; Joe DeLeon, Pico Rivera, Calif.; Stewart B. Simms Jr., Athens, Ga.; Everett G. Geis Sr., Delhi, La.; David Doyel, Las Vegas, Nevada; Wendell R. Estep, Columbia, S.C.; Stephen Swofford, Dallas; D. Wade Armstrong, Ceredo, W.Va.; Gene T. Bowman, Griffin, Ga.; Ronald Gaynor, Tucker, Ga.; and William O. Pricaster, Fayetteville, Ga.

SUNDAY SCHOOL BOARD (93 members): 28 nominations considered; 13 new members, 15 renominations.

Nominees, with terms expiring in 1996, replacing members who are ineligible for re-election include:

Jerry M. Grandstaff, pastor of Southside Church, Dothan, Ala., replacing Levan G. Parker of Birmingham, Ala.; Dolores Kay Allen, house manager and member of Craig Road Church, St. Louis, replacing T.W. Garrison Jr. of Camden, Mo.; Gary Chapman, associate pastor of Calvary Church, Winston-Salem, N.C., replacing Joseph T. Knott III, Raleigh, N.C.; Barbara Finch, director of childhood education at First Church, Bothell, Wash., replacing Frank L. Palmer of Oak Harbor, Wash.

H. H. "Bud" Jones, insurance adjuster and member of First Church of Woodway (Waco), Texas, replacing Edwin H. Young of Houston; Mary Margaret White, retiree and member of

First Church, Humbolt, Tenn., replacing Robert L. York of Nashville; Jack Stewart, businessman and member of Manley Church, Morristown, Tenn., replacing Jerry D. Burden of Donelson, Tenn.

Dennis B. Perkins, pastor of First Church, Broomfield, Colo., will be nominated to replace Jerry W. Brown of Bayfield, Colo., whose term expires in 1993. Brown resigned his position. Raymond B. Shelton Jr., pastor of Friendship Church, Taylor, Mich., will be nominated to replace Kenneth L. Johnson of Clarkston, Mich., for a term expiring in 1995. Johnson moved out-of-state.

Lonnie Clayton, engineer and member of Rancocas Valley Church, Rancocas, N.J., will be nominated to replace Charles A. Wilson of Cherry Hill, N.J., whose term expires in 1994. Wilson resigned his position. Mary Margaret Norman, church elementary school teacher and member of First Church, Post, Texas, will be nominated to replace R.E. Fowler of Fort Worth, Texas, whose term expires in 1995. Fowler resigned his position.

Bruce Robinson, pastor of West Lonsdale Church, Knoxville, Tenn., will be nominated to replace O. Eugene Mims of Cleveland, Tenn., whose term expires in 1994. Mims resigned his position. Bob Jones, pastor of Grace Church, Granite City, Ill., will be nominated to replace John Sager, Collinsville, Ill., who has resigned.

Nominated to additional terms, expiring in 1996, are: Mrs. Gene Wiggins, Andalusia, Ala.; Daniel Strickland, Orlando, Fla.; Len B. Turner, Savannah, Ga.; Ronald G. Hanie, Lithonia, Ga.; Iris B. White, Columbia, Md.; Robert W. Payne, Independence, Mo.; Lu Linda Tucker, Medfield, Mass.; H. Ondra Black, Budd Lake, N.J.; Kirk Humphreys, Oklahoma City; Richard Kellum, Columbia, S.C.; Phillip Glisson, Memphis, Tenn.; James E. Cary, III, Seguin, Texas; Robert M. Cheek, Jasper, Texas; and Tommy J. Taylor, Virginia Beach, Va.

ANNUITY BOARD (51 members): 14 nominations considered; 5 new members including a new representative from the Pennsylvania-South Jersey Baptist Convention, 9 renominations.

Nominated to terms expiring in 1996 replacing members who are ineligible for re-election include:

Michael Moot, insurance claims representative and member of Lochwood Church, Lakewood, Colo., replacing Jack Carroll of Englewood, Colo.; James H. Shelton Jr., retired military and hospital director and member of East Washington Heights Church, Washington (Temple Hills, Md.), replacing Dallas E. Pulliam of Greenbelt, Md.; Stephen Glenn Weekley, pastor of First Church, Hendersonville, Tenn., replacing Carl B. Allen of Murfreesboro, Tenn.

Elvis Joe May, certified public accountant and member of First Southern Baptist Church, Tucson, Ariz., will be nominated to fulfill the 1995 term of Mark H. Daniel of Phoenix, Ariz., following Daniel's death. Gordon Shacklee, certified public accountant and member of Emmanuel Church, Voorhees, N.J. (Cherry Hill), will be nominated as the new representative from the Pennsylvania-South Jersey Baptist Convention. That term will expire in 1993.

Nominated to additional terms are: B. Lee Wyatt Jr., Columbia, Ill.; Guy T. Williams, New Orleans; S.A. Adkins, Forest, Miss.; Jack F. Coffey, Raleigh, N.C.; Philip A. Bryant, Tacoma, Wash.; B.J. Martin, Pasadena, Texas; Robert B. Bass, Bon Air, Va.; Donald H. Wills, Dallas; and J. Ray Taylor, Fort Worth, Texas.

Key SBC committee appointments made

WICHITA FALLS, Texas (BP) — Appointments to two key committees to serve during the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention in Indianapolis, June 9-11, have been announced by SBC President Morris Chapman.

Chapman, pastor of First Church of Wichita Falls, Texas, announced the appointment of the Committee on Committees and the Committee on Resolutions April 24. The SBC bylaws require the president to announce the appointments "at least 45 days in advance of the meeting."

The credentials and tellers committees must be made public 30 days before the annual meetings, according to SBC bylaws.

COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEES: Mississippi—Max L. Loper, certified public accountant and member of First Church, Philadelphia; Paul Walley, layperson and member of First Church, Richdon.

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE: composed of 10 members, three of whom must be members of the SBC Executive Committee. The committee, according to Bylaw 21, has the "duty ... to prepare and submit to the convention resolutions which the committee deems appropriate for adop-

tion and to report on all matters submitted to it by the convention, with or without recommendation or amendments."

The bylaw also asks that proposed resolutions be sent to the committee 30 days before the annual meeting.

Chapman named R. Albert Mohler, editor of the Georgia Christian Index, as the committee chairman.

Executive Committee members are Julian Motley, pastor of Gorman Church, Durham, N.C.; Joe H. Reynolds, attorney and member of Second Church, Houston; and Rex Terry, attorney and member of First Church, Fort Smith, Ark.

Other members are: Curt Dodd, pastor of Metropolitan Church, Houston; Gary Frost, pastor of Rising Star Church, Youngstown, Ohio; Charles E. Jackson Sr., insurance executive and member of Cottage Hills Church, Mobile, Ala.; Jo Ann Miller, educator and member of First Church, De Soto, Mo.; Ben Watts, merchant and member of First Church, Columbia, Miss.; Bobby Welch, pastor of First Church, Daytona Beach, Fla.; and Mohler, who is a member of Atkinson Road Church, Lawrenceville, Ga.

Baptist Record

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May 14, 1992

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